

A CHARACTERIZATION OF THE CHEMICAL VAPOR DEPOSITION  
OF GALLIUM ARSENIDE AND INDIUM PHOSPHIDE  
IN THE HYDRIDE AND CHLORIDE SYSTEMS

By

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Abstract of Dissertation Presented to the Graduate School  
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The fundamental chemistry surrounding the chemical vapor deposition of GaAs and InP in the hydride and chloride processes was investigated. Chemical equilibrium calculations showed that  $\text{IIICl}$ ,  $\text{V}_4$  and  $\text{V}_2$  were the dominant group III and V species in the vapor phase. These calculations also demonstrated that vapor phase silicon species, formed by the interaction of  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{HCl}$  with the reactor wall, may be present at compositions up to 1 ppm under typical operation conditions. It was

shown that the formation of vapor phase silicon species can be suppressed by the addition of small amounts of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  or by replacing the  $\text{H}_2$  carrier gas with an inert. The unintentional incorporation of silicon into III-V epitaxial layers may be decreased by reducing the amount of silicon species in the vapor phase or by shifting these silicon species from hydrogen rich to chlorine rich species through the addition of  $\text{HCl}$  or  $\text{VCl}_3$ .

The use of solid and liquid group III sources in the chloride process was compared. In the GaAs system, the liquid source yielded a much greater degree of supersaturation than did the solid source. This difference was much less pronounced for the InP system.

The equilibrium chemistry of the hydride process was found to behave similarly to that of the chloride process. The degree of supersaturation present in the hydride process was found to be lower than that in the chloride process.

The thermal decompositions of  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  were studied in a constant volume reactor using a mass spectrometer. It was found that  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  could be adequately represented by first order decomposition reactions for temperatures greater than 850 K and 780 K, respectively. A reverse reaction between  $\text{VH}$  and  $\text{H}_2$  was found to be present in all of the  $\text{VH}_3$  decompositions. The activation energies for the effective first order rate constants were 60.2, 36.5 and 29.2 kcal/mole for  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$ , respectively.

## CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

### Importance of III-V Semiconducting Materials

The development of the solid state electronics industry has principally centered around the semiconductor material Si due, primarily, to its good electrical properties, available high purity and the relatively simple chemistry surrounding the fabrication of silicon semiconductor devices. The rapid growth experienced by the semiconductor industry has imposed further demands on device characteristics, such as extremely high speed and optical emission properties, which cannot be met by silicon as a result of its relatively low electron mobility and fixed indirect bandgap. The desire to satisfy these new demands has spurred the development of compound semiconductors composed of the elements Al, Ga and In from column IIIa and P, As and Sb from column Vb of the periodic table. Semiconductors formed from combinations of these elements provide a large selection of electrical and physical properties such as electron mobility, bandgap energy, possible direct bandgap and crystal lattice parameter. Table 1-1 compares these parameters for all of the III-V binary semiconductors and silicon. Electron mobilities ranging from 80 to 100000  $\text{cm}^2/\text{V-s}$  and bandgap energies ranging from 0.18 to 2.45 eV are available using the binary III-V semiconductors. This tremendous range of electrical properties contrasts sharply with the single available set of properties provided by silicon.

Table 1-1

Properties of Silicon and III-V Binary  
Semiconductors at 300K

	<u>Type</u>	<u>Bandgap</u>	<u>Electron Mobility</u>	<u>Lattice Constant</u>
		<u>Energy (eV)</u>	<u>(cm<sup>2</sup>/V-s)</u>	<u>(Å)</u>
Si	indirect	1.12	1350	5.43
InSb	direct	0.18	100000	6.48
InAs	direct	0.36	22600	6.06
GaSb	direct	0.70	5000	6.09
InP	direct	1.28	4000	5.87
GaAs	direct	1.43	8500	5.65
AlSb	indirect	1.60	200	6.14
AlAs	indirect	2.16	180	5.66
GaP	indirect	2.26	300	5.45
AlP	indirect	2.45	80	5.46

Source: Streetman [1].



Semiconductors consisting of elements from the group III and V columns of the periodic table need not be limited to simple binary compounds. Indeed, the use of ternary and quaternary solid solutions provides a means of varying the physical and electrical properties of III-V materials continuously between the limits in Table 1-1. The vastly increased electron mobility, which is characteristic of many of the III-V semiconductors over that of silicon, makes these materials ideally suited to advancing the current capabilities of high speed devices (e.g. oscillators and mixers in the 100 GHz range, central processors and computer memories).

Currently, the most important application for semiconductors made from III-V materials is in the production of optoelectronic devices. The energy band structure for many III-V materials is of a direct nature; that is, a third particle (e.g. phonon) is unnecessary for the generation and recombination of free carriers. This allows for the efficient conversion of electromagnetic radiation into electrical power (photovoltaic cells) or, in the opposite situation, emission of radiation from the semiconductor device (light emitting diodes, lasers). The available bandgap energies for binary III-V devices having a direct band structure result in device emission characteristics which range from the infrared into the visible region of the electromagnetic radiation spectrum.

Figure 1-1 plots the lattice parameters of many possible III-V compounds against the bandgap energies of these compounds at 300K. The solid dots represent binary compounds and the lines connecting each dot represent ternary solid solutions of intermediate composition between the binaries. Solid lines signify direct bandgap materials

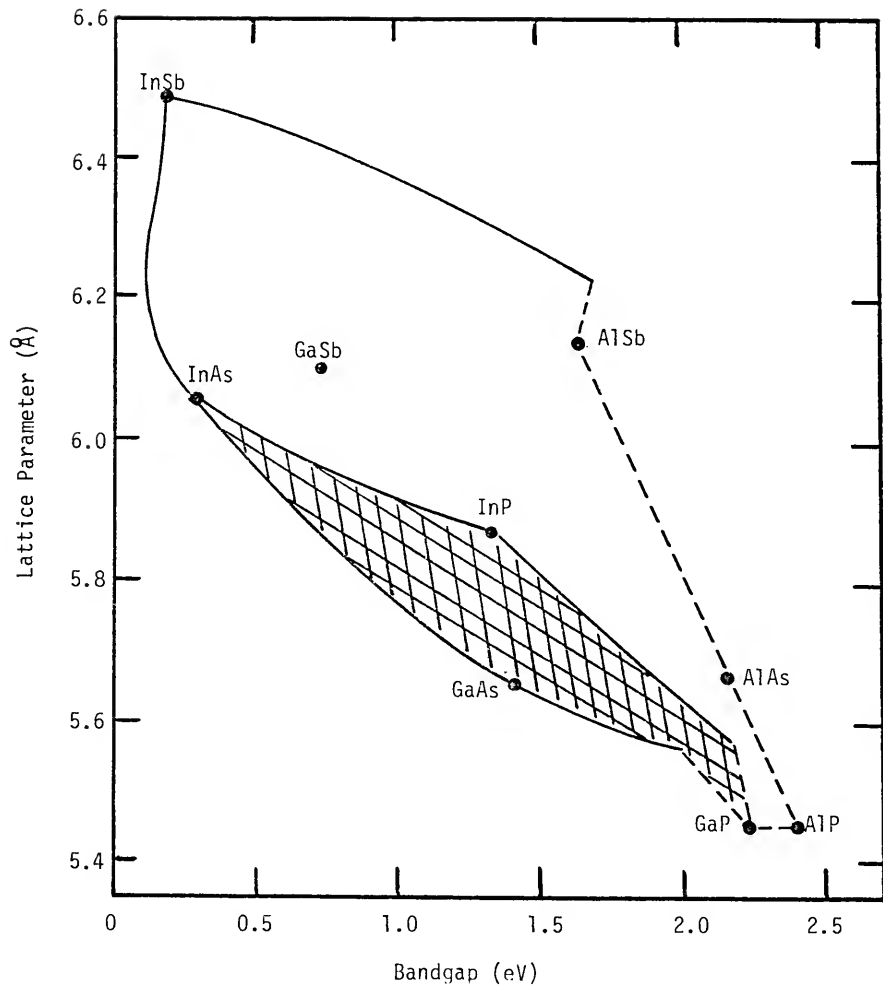


Figure 1-1  
Lattice Parameter and Bandgap Energy of Various III-V Semiconductors

while broken lines indicate indirect materials. Essentially, the entire area enclosed in Figure 1-1 is accessible to the designer when employing ternary and quaternary III-V solid solutions. This flexibility is extremely useful for the optimal design of new solid-state electronic devices.

Currently, the quaternary system  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}_y\text{P}_{1-y}$  is receiving much attention. The available ranges for the lattice parameter and bandgap energy in this system are given by the cross hatched surface shown in Figure 1-1. Thus, the lattice parameter and bandgap energy may be specified independently with the composition of the quaternary solution chosen to meet these specifications. The availability of a degree of freedom in the lattice parameter is extremely important since currently only GaAs, GaSb, GaP, InP and InSb are available in bulk crystal form for use as substrate materials. A disparity of greater than 0.1% between the lattice parameter of the substrate and epitaxial layer induces the formation of interface defects in the crystal structure which can degrade the device performance. One important application of the quaternary  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}_y\text{P}_{1-y}$  is in the development of heterojunction lasers for use as transmitters in optical fiber communication systems [2]. Currently, available optical fibers exhibit minima in attenuation and dispersion characteristics for radiation of approximately 1 eV [2]. Choosing the values of  $x=0.8$  and  $y=0.35$  yields an emission energy of  $\sim 1.11$  eV [3] with a lattice parameter which closely matches that of the InP substrate.

#### Epitaxy of III-V Semiconducting Materials

There currently exists three primary methods for growing epitaxial III-V films: liquid phase epitaxy (LPE), molecular beam epitaxy (MBE)

and chemical vapor deposition (CVD). LPE is the growth of thin single crystal layers from a liquid solution. The driving force for film deposition is most commonly provided by decreasing the temperature of the substrate relative to that of the liquid. The advantages of LPE include:

- 1) The method is capable of growing multicomponent layers with a high reactivity disparity among the elements.
- 2) The equipment is relatively simple and inexpensive.
- 3) A large selection of dopants is available.
- 4) The process is near equilibrium at the surface thus allowing reproducibility.
- 5) The growth occurs below the film melting temperature.
- 6) The growth rate can be high.
- 7) The impurity distribution coefficients are generally favorable.

There are, however, several drawbacks with LPE. Frequently, the presence of surface defects such as incomplete melt removal, terraces, pinholes and miniscus lines degrade the material. The thickness uniformity can be poor and, for solid solution films, inherent composition gradients are present. Furthermore, LPE is a small scale batch operation and heteroepitaxy can be difficult.

Molecular beam epitaxy is a method for growing epitaxial thin films of semiconductors by impinging one or more thermal energy beams of atoms or molecules onto a heated substrate under ultra-high vacuum conditions. The distinguishing characteristic of MBE is the slow growth rate ( $0.1\text{--}2\text{ }\mu\text{m/hr}$ ) that permits precise control of layer thickness, composition and doping profiles. Furthermore, it is possible to achieve spatial resolution not offered by other techniques. As with LPE, the growth temperatures are lower than those encountered in

CVD systems. Additionally, in situ analysis of the surface structure and reaction conditions during growth are possible. However, the equipment is very expensive and the throughput is low.

Commercially, the most successful technique for the growth of epitaxial films has been chemical vapor deposition. The major advantages given by CVD over MBE and LPE are relatively fast growth rates (0.1-1  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min.}$ ), the ability to scale up research equipment to accommodate many large substrates, the availability of a variety of source gases and the ease in which dopants may be changed during the deposition process.

Three source chemistries dominate the CVD process for III-V materials: group III metalorganic (MOCVD), group V hydride and group V halide sources. The MOCVD technique involves an irreversible pyrolysis reaction in which a group III metalorganic gaseous species is fed to a cold-wall reactor along with a group V species (usually a hydride). These species then contact a heated substrate, decompose and deposit an epitaxial layer onto the substrate. Due to the nature of the source gas, carbon, which is liberated during the decomposition of the group III metalorganic species, is incorporated as an unintentional acceptor in MOCVD grown epitaxial layers. Other unintentional dopants include Mg, Zn and Si which are usually present as impurities in the metalorganic source material. The cold-wall design employed in the MOCVD system results in large amounts of deposition on the reactor wall and dopants which have been deposited on the wall often desorb during later stages of the deposition process. This makes it difficult to grow epitaxial layers with abrupt doping profiles using MOCVD. A major advantage associated with the MOCVD process is its ability to successfully grow epitaxial layers which contain aluminum.

The most successful CVD techniques for the growth of III-V epitaxial layers, which do not contain aluminum, have been the hydride and chloride systems. A schematic representation of the chloride CVD system is shown in Figure 1-2. The reactor consists of source, mixing and deposition zones which are usually operated at 100 kPa pressure. Due to the exothermic nature of the overall deposition reaction, the reactor is hot-wall design, the temperature of the mixing zone is greater than or equal to that of the source zone and the deposition zone temperature is normally less than that of the source zone. Typically, hydrogen is used as the carrier gas with the concentration of the group V chloride in the inlet vapor being on the order of 1% by volume. The group III source is either the III-V stoichiometric compound (in order to avoid an initial source transient) or the group III liquid metal saturated with the group V element (generally available in higher purity). Upon entering the reactor, the group V chloride decomposes to form primarily  $V_2$ ,  $V_4$  and HCl vapor species. The HCl then reacts with the group III source to form III-Cl and other high chlorides. The mixing zone allows the species in the vapor to equilibrate while being transported to the lower temperature deposition zone where the group III and V vapor species react at the substrate surface to deposit an epitaxial layer. When a liquid group III source is used, the ratio of group III to group V atoms in the vapor is fixed at approximately 3 since essentially all of the chlorine atoms on the group V chloride react to predominantly form III-Cl. The use of a III-V stoichiometric compound as the group III source limits the III/V ratio to a maximum value of 1 since one group V atom is released from the solid for each group III atom that reacts to form III-Cl.

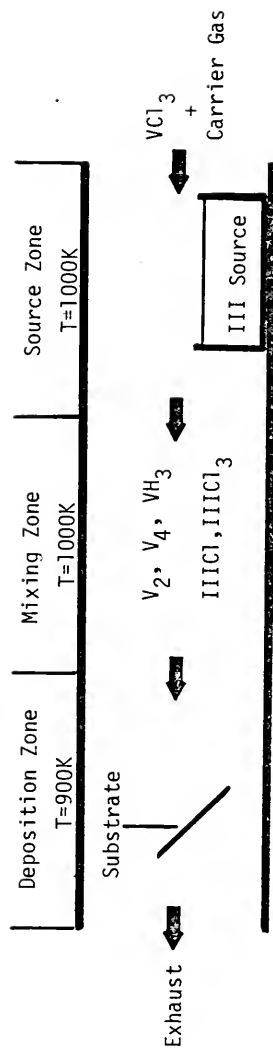


Figure 1-2  
The Chloride Process

The hydride CVD process is shown schematically in Figure 1-3. The source zone of the hydride system consists of two mass transfer isolated inlets, one for the group V species and one for the group III species. The group V hydride, at a typical inlet composition of 1%, is introduced into the source zone where it decomposes to form primarily  $V_2$ ,  $V_4$  and  $H_2$ . As in the chloride process, the group III element is transported principally as the mono-chloride by the reaction of HCl (typically the HCl inlet concentration is 1%) with the liquid group III metal. One major advantage the hydride system provides over the chloride is the ability to vary the vapor III/V ratio by adjusting the inlet compositions or flowrates of  $VH_3$  and HCl. Typically, the source and mixing zones in the hydride system are operated at higher temperatures than those of the chloride system in order to increase the rate of  $VH_3$  decomposition (the decomposition kinetics of  $VH_3$  are much slower than  $VCl_3$ ). Again, hydrogen is usually used as the carrier gas and the mixing and deposition zones provide functions equivalent to those in the chloride system. Indeed, the equilibrium chemistry of the two systems are identical after the source zone.

Both the chloride and hydride systems are hot-wall designs (heated from the outside of the reactor tube by conduction). Therefore, deposition does not occur on the reactor wall and sharp dopant profiles and heterostructures may be grown. Unfortunately, the hot-wall design allows interactions between the vapor and the reactor wall (usually quartz) which results in the introduction of Si and O into the vapor phase. The unintentional incorporation of Si into hydride and chloride grown epitaxial layers is a major problem in these processes.



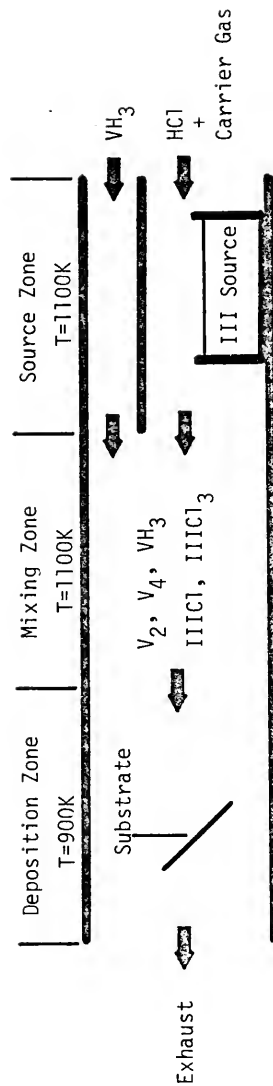


Figure 1-3  
The Hydride Process

The source materials used in the chloride and hydride processes are the purest of all the III-V CVD systems. All of the systems use  $H_2$  as a carrier gas which is usually diffused through a palladium barrier in order to obtain extremely pure  $H_2$ . The  $VCl_3$  used in the chloride system is a liquid which is introduced to the reactor by bubbling  $H_2$  through it at a controlled temperature. The impurities present in  $VCl_3$  liquid are typically very small and the bubbling process tends to further purify the inlet gas over that of the liquid. The  $HCl$  used in the hydride system is a source of many impurities if it is taken from a high pressure gas cylinder. This problem can be circumvented, however, by using  $AsCl_3$  as a source of chlorine atoms, cracking the  $AsCl_3$  at high temperature in the presence of  $H_2$ , and depositing the As as a solid in a trap before introduction to the hydride CVD reactor.

An understanding of the chemistry involved in the chloride and hydride CVD processes is essential in order to advance these technologies. In this study, a complex chemical equilibrium analysis is presented which identifies the principal vapor phase species which must be accounted for in order to understand these CVD processes. The effects of reactor temperature, pressure and inlet concentration on the equilibrium chemistry of each process are evaluated. Further, species which may be added to or removed from the system in order to suppress the amount of silicon incorporated into the epitaxial layer are identified. The influence exerted by the vapor phase on the point defect structure of the epitaxial layer is discussed relative to the unintentional incorporation of silicon.

Ban [4] has suggested that the sluggish decomposition kinetics of  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  may prohibit the use of a thermodynamic analysis of the hydride process. Therefore, the decomposition rates of  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  were studied in order to ascertain the degree to which an analysis based on the assumption of chemical equilibrium can be applied to the hydride process.

Both the chloride and hydride processes were investigated for the deposition of homoepitaxial GaAs and InP. Due to the application of a consistent basis set of operating parameters, direct comparisons between the systems are made.

## CHAPTER TWO REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

### Impurities in GaAs Epitaxial Films Grown by the Chloride Process

The feasibility of applying the chloride system CVD technique to the epitaxial growth of high purity GaAs was first demonstrated by Knight et al. [5] and Effer [6]. Initially, the commercially available  $\text{AsCl}_3$  contained sufficient impurities to cause significant contamination of the epitaxial layers and therefore the purity of the feed materials was believed to be the controlling factor for this system [7]. As better quality  $\text{AsCl}_3$  became available, Cairns and Fairman [8,9] and DiLorenzo et al. [10] found that an increase in the  $\text{AsCl}_3$  mole fraction in the inlet gas stream resulted in a decrease in unintentional impurity incorporation in the epitaxial layer.

For materials grown in their laboratory, DiLorenzo and Moore [11] identified the primary unintentional dopant as being silicon, through the use of photoluminescence spectra. Further, they proposed a thermodynamic model for the generation of vapor phase chlorosilanes as a result of the interaction of  $\text{HCl}$  with the quartz ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) reactor wall and presented an expression for the activity of solid silicon (i.e. as an impurity) as a function of the partial pressures of the chlorosilanes. Their model showed that increasing the vapor  $\text{HCl}$  concentration (e.g. as a result of  $\text{AsCl}_3$  decomposition) decreased the condensed phase silicon activity by further stabilizing the silicon species in the vapor phase in the form of chlorosilanes. Additionally, their

model predicted that the generation of vapor phase silicon species could be suppressed by the introduction of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  vapor into the system.

Rai-Choudhury [12] performed a thermodynamic analysis on the incorporation of silicon into GaAs epitaxial layers. His results reflected those of DiLorenzo and Moore [11] when considering the effects of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{HCl}$ , but he also showed that higher temperatures increased the amount of vapor phase silicon species.

The work of Ashen et al. [13] further supported the conclusion that silicon was an impurity in GaAs. A BN lined reactor was used to grow epitaxial layers from liquid Ga sources which were doped with Si. Comparing the electrical characteristics of these epitaxial layers to layers grown from pure Ga sources provided qualitative evidence for the presence of Si in GaAs. The effect of  $\text{AsCl}_3$  concentration on the amount of Si incorporated into the epitaxial layer was also verified by their experiments. Additionally, these studies provided evidence which indicated that Si was much more likely to reside on a Ga site than an As site and therefore, behaves as a donor. This conclusion was also supported by Beiden et al. [14].

Wolfe, Stillman and Korn [15] have identified, through intentional doping and determination of ionization energies, three unintentional impurities, Si, C and one unknown (possibly Te), in GaAs grown by the chloride CVD system. Also, due to the results of Solomon [16] which showed that oxygen may be a shallow donor in GaAs, they attempted to dope the epitaxial layer with oxygen by adding  $\text{Ga}_2\text{O}_3$  to the liquid gallium source. The oxygen, however, was not incorporated into the epitaxial layer, but did reduce the amount of silicon which was incorporated into the layer. This reduction in background doping due to the presence

of oxygen was also investigated by Palm et al. [17] by injecting a hydrogen-oxygen mixture into the mixing zone of a chloride system CVD reactor. Using silane as an intentional dopant, the presence of oxygen was found to reduce the incorporation of silicon in the epitaxial layers by as much as four orders of magnitude.

Seki et al. [18] performed a thermodynamic analysis of the GaAs chloride process in order to identify the effects of inerts, HCl and substrate temperature on the activity of silicon in the epitaxial layers. The analysis predicted that increasing the HCl content or decreasing the substrate temperature lowered the silicon activity. In addition, replacing the hydrogen carrier gas with an inert gas caused a very large reduction in the silicon activity.

The effect of replacing the hydrogen carrier gas with an inert was investigated by Ozeki et al. [19]. Through far infrared photoconductivity measurements, it was determined that sulfur was the dominant residual donor present in epitaxial GaAs when  $N_2$  was used in place of  $H_2$  as the carrier gas. It was also found that the dominant residual donor when  $H_2$  was used as the carrier gas was sometimes Si and sometimes S. A possible source of S in the system was not discussed (although it was presumably in the feed gases) and elaboration on the growth conditions which caused Si or S to be dominant was not provided.

A thermodynamic analysis of the chloride CVD system performed by Boucher and Hollan [20] assumed solid GaAs as the group III source material. By comparison with experiment, it was found that the dominant group III and group V species present in the vapor were GaCl and  $As_4$ . Under the experimental conditions investigated, the deposition process was kinetically controlled with an activation energy of ~40

kcal/mole, and reproducible growth conditions could be attained only if 10% or less of the thermodynamically available GaAs was deposited from the vapor phase.

Gentner et al. [21] also studied the chloride process experimentally and presented a thermodynamic analysis over a greater range of temperature, pressure and inlet  $\text{AsCl}_3$  composition than did previous investigators. They found that  $\text{As}_2$  became the dominant group V species below 10 kPa pressure and that  $\text{GaCl}$  was always the dominant group III species. At large  $\text{AsCl}_3$  inlet compositions, the higher gallium chlorides became more pronounced but never competed with the monochloride as the dominant species. They concluded, based on a kinetic model [22], a mass transfer model and experimental results, that the deposition of GaAs was kinetically rather than mass transfer controlled.

Shaw [23] studied the transport kinetics of the GaAs chloride system in the source and deposition zones. He found an activation energy of 49.1 kcal/mole in reasonable agreement with that of Boucher and Hollan [20], for a surface reaction associated with the deposition process.

#### Impurities in InP Epitaxial Films Grown by the Chloride Process

The epitaxial growth of InP using a chloride CVD system was first demonstrated by Clark et al. [24] and later by Hales et al. [25]. Both groups of investigators reported limitations on the purity of their epitaxial layers due to unintentional dopants. Joyce and Williams [26] tentatively identified the impurities as being Si and Zn acceptors. They also found evidence of a donor which was thought to be amphoteric Si.

The dependence of unintentional doping on  $\text{PCl}_3$  mole fraction in the InP chloride system was first reported by Clark [27]. The similarity between the GaAs and InP chloride system reactors combined with the analogous dependencies on the group V hydride mole fraction supported the belief that Si was an impurity in InP epitaxial layers. Clarke [28] later studied the effect of III/V ratio in the vapor phase on the unintentional doping of InP epi-layers and found p-type conductivity for  $\text{III/V} < 3$  and n-type for  $\text{III/V} > 3$ , with a minimum in the free carrier concentration at  $\text{III/V} \approx 3$ . No explanation was offered for these observations.

Easton [29] investigated the unintentional doping of InP epitaxial layers grown by the chloride system and concluded that S (acting as a donor) was the major impurity and that the origin of the S was the  $\text{PCl}_3$  liquid source. Using mass spectrometric analysis, Easton found Si, S and Zn present in the  $\text{PCl}_3$  source at levels between 1 ppm and 10 ppm (atomic) and Fe, Cu, Cd and Sn at  $\sim 0.7$  ppm. These same elements were found in the unused bulk In liquid at levels below 0.1 ppm. Analysis of the used In source liquid revealed impurity levels approximately 10 times larger than those in the unused liquid.

These results support the work of Weiner [30] who proposed models for the contamination of a Ga liquid source by Si in the GaAs and GaP systems. Weiner's results showed that the liquid group III metal impurity level increased as the exposure to the CVD environment increased. He also found the level of Si contamination to be inversely related to the partial pressure of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the system.

Fairhurst et al. [31] studied the InP halide system using both  $\text{PCl}_3$  and  $\text{PBr}_3$ . They found that oxyhalide salts were present in both



phosphorous liquids at approximately the 100 ppm level. The presence of oxygen was expected to decrease the level of impurity incorporation in the epitaxial layers. This effect was not observed however, presumably due to this level of oxygen contamination being too low to be significant. Equilibrium calculations were performed which showed  $\text{InCl}$  and  $\text{P}_4$  to be the dominant group III and V species in the vapor over a temperature range of 850 K to 1150 K and an inlet  $\text{PCl}_3$  mole fraction range of 0.1% to 6%. These results agreed with those of Boucher and Hollan [20] for the analogous GaAs system.

Hales and Knight [32] investigated the effect of introducing oxygen into the system in order to reduce the level of impurities in  $\text{InP}$ . They observed a monotonic decrease in free electron density for additions of  $\text{O}_2$  up to 24 ppm. The electron mobility (measured at 77 K) however reached a very broad maximum at approximately 16 ppm of added  $\text{O}_2$ , which suggests that oxygen was becoming incorporated into the epitaxial layer and that there is a limit to the degree of benefit which may be obtained through oxygen addition. They also observed  $\text{POCl}_3$  to be an impurity in the liquid  $\text{PCl}_3$  used in the chloride system.

Investigations of the dependence of impurity incorporation on  $\text{PCl}_3$  inlet composition, total flowrate and deposition zone temperature were carried out by Chevrier et al. [33]. They observed a decrease in free carrier concentration with increasing  $\text{PCl}_3$  concentration, as did other investigators, but also found that the impurity concentration increased with increasing total flowrate. This velocity effect had not been reported before and suggests the presence of a mass transfer resistance at the group III source (if impurities are picked

up from the liquid metal) or at the substrate in the deposition zone. They also studied the intentional doping of InP as a function of deposition zone temperature using  $\text{SnCl}_4$ . Lower free electron concentrations and higher electron mobilities were observed when the deposition zone temperature was decreased from 950 K to 910 K. Thus, the uptake of group IV impurities (Sn, Si, etc.) was apparently reduced by lowering the deposition zone temperature.

Cardwell et al. [34] found kinetic limitations in both the source and deposition zones. The previously reported effect of  $\text{PCl}_3$  mole fraction on impurity levels in the epitaxial layers was observed. Intentional doping of InP using Sn followed the same behavior as that of unintentional dopants and therefore supports the use of Sn for studies regarding the reduction of unintentional impurities. In contrast to Chevrier et al. [33], no dependence of impurity uptake on total flowrate was found.

A thermodynamic analysis comparing the GaAs and InP chloride systems using the stoichiometric III-V solid as the group III source material was reported by Shaw [35]. His results also confirmed  $\text{GaCl}$ ,  $\text{As}_4$ ,  $\text{InCl}$  and  $\text{P}_4$  to be the dominant group III and V vapor species in these systems. Further, the degree of supersaturation in the deposition zone was calculated to be less for InP than for GaAs under analogous conditions. Since solid III-V source materials were employed etching conditions were predicted whenever the deposition zone temperature was greater than that of the source zone.

#### Impurities in GaAs Epitaxial Films Grown by the Hydride Process

The feasibility of applying a hydride CVD system for the growth of high purity GaAs was demonstrated by Enstrom and Peterson [36]. Since

the hydride system consists of a hot-wall quartz reactor with the elements H, Cl, Ga and As present in the vapor, one would expect it to show an unintentional impurity incorporation problem similar to that of the chloride system. Pogge and Kemlage [37] investigated the effects of HCl, AsH<sub>3</sub> and PH<sub>3</sub> on the unintentional doping of GaAs and GaP grown by the hydride system. They found that the free carrier concentration decreased with increasing HCl, AsH<sub>3</sub> or PH<sub>3</sub> composition. The effect of HCl was less than that of the group V hydrides and changes in PH<sub>3</sub> showed larger effects than did AsH<sub>3</sub>. They concluded that the HCl effect on the vapor phase composition was similar to that of the chloride system. Further, they concluded that As<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> caused blockage of the available surface sites on the substrate due to the large size of these molecules. The unintentional dopant was assumed to be Si generated from reactions with the quartz wall.

Kennedy et al. [38] investigated the effect of HCl inlet composition and additions of HCl downstream of the source zone on the unintentional doping of GaAs grown in a hydride CVD reactor. Increasing the HCl inlet composition greatly reduced the free carrier density in the epitaxial layer. In contrast to this result, however, when HCl was added downstream of the source zone the free carrier density was found to increase. This led to the conclusion that the equilibrium model as proposed by DiLorenzo and Moore [11] for the chloride system was not applicable to the hydride system. However, the HCl which was injected may not have been as pure as that which was generated from the decomposition of AsCl<sub>3</sub> in the chloride system and therefore may have introduced additional impurities into the epi-layer. These effects were also observed by Enstrom and Appert [39].

The work of Skromme et al. [40] identified some of the unintentional donors and acceptors present in GaAs and InP prepared by the hydride CVD system. They found C, Zn, Cu and Mn as acceptors and Si, S and Ge as donors in GaAs. Epitaxial InP was found to contain Zn, C or Mg and an unidentifiable acceptor along with Si and S as donors. Additionally, in one of the laboratories (Honeywell) where the epi-layers were grown, an increase in the impurity concentration in epitaxial GaAs was noted as the HCl gas cylinders "aged". This effect, however, was not observed at the other laboratory (Hanscom AFB).

The effect of pressure was studied experimentally by Putz et al. [41] from 1 kPa to 100 kPa. They found that the unintentional doping of GaAs was reduced at pressures below 100 kPa.

#### Impurities in InP Epitaxial Films Grown by the Hydride Process

Growth of InP epitaxial layers using the hydride system has been demonstrated by Olsen [42] and Hyder [43] among others. Both of these investigators observed unintentional impurity incorporation similar to that occurring in the GaAs system. Hyder also found that for the ternary  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}$  ( $x=0.53$ ), a maximum in electron mobility occurred when the III/V ratio in the vapor phase was approximately 2, but the effect of III/V ratio on free carrier concentration was not discussed. Zinkiewicz et al. [44] also studied the growth of InP and the ternary  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{As}$  in the hydride system. They found Zn, Cu and Hg to be present as unintentional donors.

Anderson [45] studied the hydride system for InP growth in order to determine the effect of HCl mole fraction,  $\text{H}_2$  flowrate and mixing zone temperature on unintentional impurity incorporation. He found that these parameters caused only minor changes in the electrical behavior

of the InP epitaxial layers. This suggests that the InP hydride system may perform somewhat differently than the GaAs hydride system.

Jones [46] performed a thermodynamic analysis of the InP hydride system in order to understand the effect of process parameters on unintentional Si incorporation. The calculations predicted that decreasing temperatures lowered the silicon activity in the epitaxial layer. Additionally, the silicon activity was decreased by increasing the  $\text{PH}_3$  and/or HCl inlet composition. Very little effect was noted when HCl was added downstream of the source zone. His analysis used liquid In as the group III source material and showed InCl and  $\text{P}_4$  to be the dominant group III and V vapor species.

Ban and Ettenberg [47] coupled a mass spectrometer to a hydride system reactor used for the growth of  $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{P}$ . They compared measured vapor species to those predicted by a thermodynamic model and concluded that the model yielded an acceptable representation of the system. The major shortcomings of the model were an overprediction of the amount of InCl generated from the heterogeneous reaction of HCl and In liquid, and a predicted greater degree of dissociation for  $\text{PH}_3$  than was measured. Due to the slow decomposition kinetics of  $\text{PH}_3$  and the potential mass transfer and kinetic limitations associated with heterogeneous reactions, these discrepancies were not surprising. Their mass spectrometric measurements identified the major vapor phase species as being InCl, GaCl, HCl,  $\text{PH}_3$ ,  $\text{P}_2$ ,  $\text{P}_4$  and  $\text{H}_2$ .

Usui and Watanabe [48] investigated the effects of temperature and oxygen additions on the unintentional doping of hydride grown InP. Additions of  $\text{O}_2$  in the 1 ppm to 10 ppm range decreased the free carrier concentration about one order of magnitude, but further additions caused

the free carrier concentration to increase, presumably due to uptake of oxygen by the epitaxial layer. The liquid In source that was used in these experiments was found to have a gettering effect on impurities in the inlet gases. Unused In showed less than 1 ppm levels of Si, S, Sn, Te, Zn, Fe and Cu, while In exposed to the CVD environment contained increased levels (~2 ppm) of Fe, Cu and Sn. Increasing the source zone temperature caused a decrease in the free carrier concentrations in InP epi-layers due to an increased ability of the In liquid to getter impurities at high temperature. Thus, the purity of source gases still appears to be a major problem in the hydride system.

#### The Thermal Decomposition of $\text{NH}_3$

The thermal decomposition of the trihydrides of N, P and As have been studied by many investigators and, for temperatures below 1500 K, a general consensus exists that these reactions are almost entirely heterogeneous in nature. Bamford and Tipper [49] have reviewed the literature relevant to the homogeneous pyrolysis of ammonia at temperature above 2000 K and found the reaction to be characterized by an activation energy of approximately 100 kcal/mole. Based on the observed activation energy and the results of experiments with deuterated ammonia, the initiating step in the pyrolysis reaction sequence was proposed to be:



where M represents any gas molecule. They also found evidence that a reaction which forms  $\text{NH}_3$  is likely to be present in the decomposition chain reaction sequence, but were unable to identify the nature of this reaction.

The decomposition of  $\text{NH}_3$  in a quartz vessel was first studied by Bodenstein and Kranendieck [50] using a manometric method. The amount of surface area present in the reactor was varied by the addition of quartz fibers. They concluded that within the temperature range of their study (1063 K to 1153 K), the reaction appeared to be first order and was entirely heterogeneous in nature. Further, they found no change in the reaction rate when  $\text{H}_2$  or  $\text{N}_2$  additions were made to the system.

Hinshelwood and Burke [51] investigated  $\text{NH}_3$  decomposition in a quartz vessel for temperatures as high as 1323 K. They also concluded that the reaction was dominated by the heterogeneous component and demonstrated a first order dependence on  $\text{NH}_3$ . Additions of  $\text{H}_2$  to the reactor decreased the reaction rate while  $\text{N}_2$  additions were ineffective.

Christiansen and Knuth [52] suggested the following mechanism for the heterogeneous pyrolysis of  $\text{NH}_3$  in a quartz vessel:



where S represents a surface site. Their experiments were carried out in a reactor vessel having a surface to volume ratio (S/V) of 1 and a surface area of  $0.02 \text{ M}^2$ . They concluded that the forward component of reaction 2-2 was the rate limiting step and over the temperature range of 1062 K to 1132 K, this reaction was characterized by an activation energy of  $43 \pm 5 \text{ kcal/mole}$  with an Arrhenius type frequency factor of  $4.5 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

The investigation of Russow and Pewsner [53] into the decomposition of  $\text{NH}_3$  in a quartz reactor demonstrated that the reaction followed

a first order dependence with respect to  $\text{NH}_3$  partial pressure. They reported an activation energy of 38.2 kcal/mole for the pyrolysis reaction.

The decomposition of  $\text{NH}_3$  on quartz was reported by Szabo and Ordogh [54] to follow a 1/2 order dependence with  $\text{NH}_3$  pressure at 913 K and a first order dependence at 1013 K. The reduced order of reaction at 913 K was reported to be a result of  $\text{H}_2$  competing with  $\text{NH}_3$  for adsorption sites on the quartz reactor wall. The presence of  $\text{H}_2$  or  $\text{O}_2$  in the system was found to decrease the reaction rate while no reaction rate changes were observed when  $\text{N}_2$  was added. Initial partial pressures of  $\text{NH}_3$  ranging from  $6.6 \times 10^3$  Pa to  $2.6 \times 10^4$  Pa were tried, but no changes were observed in the order of reaction over this range.

An activation energy of  $34 \pm 2$  kcal/mole for the decomposition of  $\text{NH}_3$  on quartz was reported by Voelter and Schoen [55]. The frequency factor associated with an Arrhenius type temperature dependence was  $560 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , but they did not report the surface area of the reactor used. Over the temperature range of 1023 K to 1173 K, the reaction was found to be first order with respect to  $\text{NH}_3$  pressure.

Kelvin [56] utilized an infrared spectrometer to measure the outlet  $\text{NH}_3$  composition from a plug flow quartz reactor over the temperature range 833 K to 1373 K. He found that the reaction rate varied with the reactor S/V to the 0.75 power, confirming the heterogeneous nature of the reaction. Hydrogen was found to exhibit a strong inhibitory effect on the decomposition reaction nature due, primarily, to a reaction between  $\text{NH}$  radicals and  $\text{H}_2$ , which forms  $\text{NH}_3$ . Additions of  $\text{N}_2$ , Ar or He to the reactor resulted only in a diluent effect.



### The Thermal Decomposition of $\text{PH}_3$

The decomposition of  $\text{PH}_3$  in a quartz reactor was first studied by van't Hoff and Kooj [57]. They found the reaction to be first order in  $\text{PH}_3$  pressure over the temperature range 310 K to 512 K. The reaction was believed to be heterogeneous as a result of the increase in reaction rate, which occurred upon the addition of quartz fibers to the system. An activation energy of 46.4 kcal/mole was reported.

Trautz and Bhandarkar [58] reported a transition from heterogeneous to homogeneous reaction kinetics at 940 K for the decomposition of  $\text{PH}_3$  in a porcelain bulb. They reported activation energies of 59 kcal/mole for temperatures below 940 K and 116 kcal/mole for temperatures above 940 K. Based on the large degree of scatter in their results and the fact that other investigators have not seen this transition, it is doubtful that a homogeneous decomposition reaction was actually observed.

Hinshelwood and Topley [59] studied the decomposition of  $\text{PH}_3$  in a 155 cm<sup>3</sup> quartz bulb with surface areas of 210 cm<sup>2</sup> to 1600 cm<sup>2</sup>. They concluded that in the temperature range 848 K to 1042 K, the reaction was first order and behaved in a heterogeneous manner with an activation energy of  $46 \pm 4$  kcal/mole. The reaction rate was found to increase with increasing S/V to the 0.8 power.

Devyatykh et al. [60] studied the decomposition of  $\text{PH}_3$  on glass and Si over the temperature range 740 K < T < 822 K. They found  $\text{PH}_3$  decomposition to be first order with activation energies of 44.2 kcal/mole and 55.3 kcal/mole on the glass and Si surfaces, respectively. The decomposition of  $\text{SbH}_3$  was studied on an antimony surface and was found to have an activation energy of 7.7 kcal/mole. The  $\text{SbH}_3$  decomposition reaction was investigated over the temperature range 298 K <

$T < 364$  K and the reaction order was observed to change from half order at 298 K to first order at 364 K.

#### The Thermal Decomposition of $\text{AsH}_3$

The decomposition of  $\text{AsH}_3$  on glass, As and Sb has been studied by Tamaru [61]. The reaction was found to proceed most rapidly on the Sb surface and slowest on glass. Adding  $\text{H}_2$  to the system had no effect on reaction rate and no isotopic exchange was observed when  $\text{D}_2$  was added. Tamaru proposed that the reaction mechanism consisted of  $\text{AsH}_3$  adsorbing on the surface followed by sequential stripping of the hydrogen atoms off of the As atom. He believed the rate determining step to be the removal of the first H atom and assigned an activation energy of 23.2 kcal/mole to this reaction. Tamaru [62] later attempted the calculation of the reaction rate constants for  $\text{AsH}_3$  and  $\text{SbH}_3$  decomposition on As and Sb surfaces using a model based on activated complex theory. His predicted rate constant for  $\text{AsH}_3$  decomposition was six orders of magnitude below the observed value while the predicted rate constant for  $\text{SbH}_3$  was two orders of magnitude low. The restrictive assumptions, which required all of the hydrogen bond energies to be the same and all partition functions to have the value of one, were probably the reasons for the poor results.

Devyatykh et al. [63] found that the decomposition of  $\text{AsH}_3$  on a Si surface obeyed first order kinetics and was characterized by an activation energy of 50.9 kcal/mole. Their experiments were conducted from a temperature of 659 K to 707 K.

Kedyarkin and Zorin [64] reported an activation energy of 25.5 kcal/mole, in good agreement with that of Tamaru [61], for the decomposition of  $\text{AsH}_3$  on As. They found the reaction to be first order with

respect to  $\text{AsH}_3$  pressure and heterogeneous in nature. The temperature range of their study, however, was somewhat restricted ( $543 < T < 583$  K).

The only reported study of  $\text{AsH}_3$  decomposition on a quartz surface was undertaken by Frolov et al. [65]. Their investigations were carried out on quartz, Ge, Ga and GaAs surfaces over a temperature range of 699 K to 909 K. The activation energy for  $\text{AsH}_3$  decomposition on quartz was found to be 32.6 kcal/mole with an Arrhenius frequency factor of  $513 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The activation energies for  $\text{AsH}_3$  decomposition on Ge, Ga, Te doped GaAs and Cr doped GaAs were reported as 54, 30, 45 and 27 kcal/mole, respectively, in the presence of  $\text{H}_2$ . When He was used as the carrier gas in place of  $\text{H}_2$ , these activation energies increased slightly. No explanation was provided for this observation. Their experimental apparatus consisted of an open tube coupled to an infrared spectrometer. The surface area or surface to volume ratio of the reactor was not reported.

CHAPTER THREE  
FORMULATION OF AN EQUILIBRIUM MODEL  
FOR THE HYDRIDE AND CHLORIDE PROCESSES

Introduction

Performing a detailed analysis on CVD processes as complex as the hydride and chloride processes presents a formidable task if results which allow direct comparison of the systems are desired. A rigorous treatment would require the solution of the mass, energy and momentum equations with variable properties and kinetic expressions for many of the homogeneous and heterogeneous reactions which are present. The current lack of knowledge surrounding the fundamental chemistry which underlies these processes precludes this type of analysis. Many of the essential differences between these processes may, however, be elucidated by the application of a model based on the assumption of chemical equilibrium. Due to the high temperatures employed in these processes, it is expected that many of the chemical reactions proceed at a very high rate. Therefore, homogeneous reactions are expected to be near equilibrium. Heterogeneous reactions may be impeded by the existence of mass transfer barriers. These barriers may be approximated by either allowing the reaction to reach equilibrium or by neglecting the reaction. The results related to heterogeneous reactions are therefore expected to be semiquantitative in nature in that they provide limits to the system composition. These results may then be compared to experiments in order to determine the degree of influence exerted by the heterogeneous reactions on the systems.

The resources employed in order to affect the analysis performed in this study include a computer code for the calculation of multiphase equilibria in systems having many chemical species (typically more than 20), models for each zone of these CVD processes which are based on chemical equilibrium constrained to account for actual mass transfer or kinetic limitations, a model for the point defect chemistry in the solid epitaxial layer and, finally, a set of consistent thermodynamic properties for each chemical species in the system. The computer code, reactor zone models and solid state defect chemistry are discussed in this Chapter. The choice and analysis of a set of thermodynamic properties are described in Chapter Four.

#### Method of Calculation for Complex Chemical Equilibrium

The calculation of complex chemical equilibrium in multicomponent, multiphase systems has been reviewed most completely by Smith [66]. Essentially, there are two statements of the solution to this problem. Nonstoichiometric methods, such as the popular Rand algorithm [67], directly minimize the Gibbs energy of the total system in order to obtain a solution without recourse to a specific set of formation reaction equations. Stoichiometric methods [68] require that an independent set of chemical reactions be in equilibrium. Generally, a formation reaction is written for each species present in the system and the corresponding equilibrium constant for each reaction is generated from the Gibbs energy change of the reaction.

An extension of the Rand algorithm to include not only a gas phase with an inert species, but also a multicomponent solution and pure condensed phases, was developed by Anderson [69]. This algorithm

was initially applied to the hydride and chloride CVD systems, but was susceptible to finding local minima. In particular, some component mole fractions sought were as low as 0.1 ppb. The contribution to the system Gibbs energy for these components was quite small and the resulting component mole changes were not capable of releasing the Gibbs energy of the system from the local minima.

A stoichiometric algorithm, presented in Appendix A, was therefore developed which was superior to the extended Rand algorithm since a linearized Gibbs energy function was not required. The stoichiometric algorithm performed well for all of the systems studied (the results were compared to other investigator's calculations and were found to be independent with respect to initial guesses) and yielded results which were in agreement with those of the extended Rand algorithm, when it could be successfully applied. The amount of computer memory required for the stoichiometric algorithm was found to be much less than that required by the extended Rand algorithm in order to solve identical systems.

The input data which was required in order to perform the calculations consisted of the standard enthalpy and entropy of formation and heat capacity for each species along with the system temperature, pressure and inlet composition.

Aside from numerical difficulties, the two major factors, which must be considered in determining the overall accuracy of the calculated equilibrium compositions, are the choice of species postulated to be present in the system and the accuracy of the thermodynamic data chosen to represent each species. Choosing an appropriate set of species, which accurately represent the system at equilibrium, is

an inherent difficulty in the calculation of multicomponent equilibrium. A true calculation of equilibrium in a given system must include any chemical species which is formed from any combination of the elements present in the system. The compilation of such a complete thermodynamic data base can represent a nearly impossible task, even for systems consisting of only a few elements.

It is important to realize that anytime a possible species is not included in the data set, a constrained equilibrium calculation will result. This is most easily understood if the calculation of chemical equilibrium is considered from the viewpoint of the Rand algorithm. In the Rand algorithm, multicomponent equilibrium represents the optimal distribution of a given quantity of elements among a set of chemical species. The optimizing function for a constant pressure system is the minimization of the total Gibbs energy. Therefore, as the number of available chemical species is decreased, the elements are constrained to reside in a smaller selection of molecules. This causes a shift in the calculated compositions in order to satisfy the atom balance while keeping the Gibbs energy of the system as low as possible. In general, the exclusion of a species will impact the equilibrium composition of the remaining species containing similar atoms that are in the vicinity or below the equilibrium composition of the excluded species.

The procedure for developing a species list first excludes those species not expected to be present because of severe kinetic limitations. In practice, this species set is developed by including only those species which have been experimentally observed in the system or in appropriate subsystems. As an example, mass spectroscopic work in

the CVD of GaAs has indicated approximately 10 species, but observations in the subsystem Si-H-Cl indicates approximately 15 additional species. The next step consists of generating an initial thermodynamic data base for all species. This includes thermodynamic compilations (such as the JANAF tables), data bases of other investigators for similar systems and crude estimates for the remaining species. Initial equilibrium calculations are then performed at the extreme limits of the study and those species whose compositions are more than three orders of magnitude in mole fraction below the range of interest are excluded. Finally, the initial thermodynamic data base is completed by referring to the literature and the results of internal consistency tests.

The sensitivity of the results to errors in the thermodynamic data was investigated by Smith [70] in terms of a Jacobian, which relates the changes in the calculated results to changes in the input parameters. The first order approximation to the result was

$$|\delta n_i| < \sum_{j=1}^N \left| \frac{\delta n_i}{\delta \mu_j^0} \right| |\delta \mu_j^0| \quad 3-1$$

Here,  $n_i$  is the number of moles of specie  $i$  present,  $\mu_j^0$  is the standard chemical potential of specie  $j$  and  $N$  is the total of components. This expression, while simple in form, is extremely difficult to evaluate due to the complicated and implicit nature of the function  $n_i(\mu_j^0)$  for all values of  $i$ . If problems seem apparent for some species, this function can be numerically evaluated. The work of Sirtl and Hunt [71] and similar calculations performed in Chapter Four showed by means of a calculated example the effects of changes in the enthalpy of formation of  $\text{SiHCl}_3$  on the predicted equilibrium ratio of  $\text{SiCl}_4/\text{SiHCl}_3$ . This



ratio was found to change by approximately two orders of magnitude for a 10% change in the standard enthalpy of formation. The shape of the curve relating this ratio to temperature was also found to change markedly. Therefore, it is extremely important to critically review the thermodynamic data set in order to perform meaningful equilibrium calculations. The absolute composition of the calculated solution can be no better than the data set employed. Extreme care must also be used when comparing calculated equilibrium compositions to experimental process compositions as the latter include possible kinetic limitations. However, these calculations are of great value in predicting the directions of compositional changes, particularly at the high temperatures and low pressures encountered in this study.

#### Thermodynamic Models of CVD

##### Models for the CVD Source and Pre-Source Zones

Each of the CVD systems under investigation may be separated, based on temperature or composition, into the pre-source, source, mixing and deposition zones. The pre-source zone was investigated as a source of Si by considering the equilibrium gas phase Si-content in the system:  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  in excess, carrier gas ( $\text{H}_2$  or inert) and vapor reactant ( $\text{VH}_3$ ,  $\text{VCl}_3$  or  $\text{HCl}$ ).

Historically, the chloride process has employed two different group III source materials ( $\text{III-V}(\text{c})$  and  $\text{III}(\text{l})$ ) and thus required two separate model formulations. The  $\text{III-V}(\text{c})$  chloride source zone model considered the system:  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  in excess,  $\text{III-V}(\text{c})$  in excess, carrier gas ( $\text{H}_2$  or inert) and  $\text{VCl}_3(\text{g})$ .

The chloride process which used a group  $\text{III}(\text{l})$  as the group III source material was a more complicated situation. Shaw [23] has

studied this source zone and found that, following an initial transient, a constant rate of mass loss of material occurred. An overall mass balance on the source boat yields the following expression:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{2} n^c (M_{III} + M_V) + n^l (x M_{III} + (1-x) M_V) \right] = \\ \dot{n}^V (y M_{III} + (1-y) M_V) = \text{constant} \end{aligned} \quad 3-2$$

while a group III component mass balance on the source boat produces the constraint:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{2} n^c M_{III} + n^l x M_{III} \right] = \dot{n}^V y M_{III} \quad 3-3$$

In these expressions:  $n^c$  and  $n^l$  are the moles of atoms in the solid GaAs crust and the liquid III-V mixture,  $M_{III}$  and  $M_V$  are the molecular weights of the group III and V elements,  $x$  and  $y$  are the mole fractions of the group III element in the liquid and vapor phase, and  $\dot{n}^V$  is the molar rate at which vapor species are formed. If it is assumed that the solid and liquid phases are in equilibrium, the liquid phase mole fraction is a function of temperature only and therefore constant for a given process condition. Furthermore, if the actual kinetic processes produce a steady state value of the crust thickness, the first term on the left side of both equations is zero. With these assumptions, equations 3-2 and 3-3 can be solved to show that  $\dot{n}^V = \frac{dn^l}{dt}$  and  $x=y$ . That is, the rate at which group III and V atoms are introduced into the vapor phase is equal to the rate of loss for the melt and the III/V vapor atom ratio is the same as that in the melt. Another way of viewing the situation is to consider the three phase equilibrium problem. The activity of the group III and V elements in the solid compound can vary greatly even though the stoichiometry (~1:1) can be very small

and therefore the sum of these two activities is nearly constant. The large amount of melt in equilibrium with the solid will, however, fix the activity of each element in the solid, with the group III activity being considerably higher than that of the group V, which in turn fixes the vapor phase fugacity. In the event that the assumption of constant crust thickness is not valid, the  $dn^C/dt$  terms in equations 3-2 and 3-3 must be retained and the result is

$$\dot{n}^V = \text{constant} = \frac{(2x-1)}{2(x-y)} \frac{dn^C}{dt} = \frac{(2x-1)}{2y-1} \frac{dn^I}{dt} \quad 3-4$$

The limit that  $\frac{dn^I}{dt} = 0$  implies that  $y = 1/2$  and the source can be considered to be pure solid compound. This limit is simply the first case examined (solid compound source). Thus, an investigation of the two source zones described here should establish the limits of operation for the liquid source in the chloride process. In practice, the conditions of operation may lie somewhere in between with the observed III/V ratio providing an indicator of the relative rates. However, if  $x$  is a constant as determined by the condition of solid-liquid equilibrium and  $y$  is also a constant as witnessed by a constant growth rate, it follows that both  $\frac{dn^I}{dt}$  and  $\frac{dn^C}{dt}$  are constant. If  $dn^I/dt$  is dependent upon the crust thickness,  $n^C$ , (i.e. a diffusion limited process), then it is impossible for  $dn^I/dt$  to be constant for a finite value of  $dn^C/dt$ , which implies operation at one of the limits.

The above considerations motivated a model for the liquid group III source zone to consist of an ideal vapor phase in equilibrium with excess  $\text{SiO}_2(c)$  and  $\text{III}_x\text{V}_{1-x}(l)$ . The gas inlet stream contained  $\text{VCl}_3$  and carrier gas ( $\text{H}_2$  or inert). The development of a thermodynamic data set for the hypothetical specie  $\text{III}_x\text{V}_{1-x}(l)$  is presented in Chapter

Four. Thus, with this relation, the compound crust does not contribute elements to the system.

Two source zones, one for the thermal decomposition of the group V hydride and one for volatilization of the group III liquid, are found in the hydride CVD process. The group V source zone was modeled as an ideal vapor phase in equilibrium with excess  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$ . The inlet gas reactants were the hydride ( $\text{VH}_3$ ) and carrier gas ( $\text{H}_2$  or inert) at constant temperature and pressure. The group III source zone included excess pure group III liquid in equilibrium with excess  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  and an ideal vapor phase ( $\text{HCl}$  plus carrier gas).

#### Models for the CVD Mixing and Deposition Zones

Since the only differences between the chloride and hydride systems exist in the source regions, the mixing and deposition zone models were identical in both systems. An ideal vapor phase in equilibrium with excess  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  was used for the mixing zone model. Formation of solid III-V compound was postulated to be kinetically hindered and thus assumed not to exist in the mixing zone. As a result, it was possible for this region to be supersaturated. The model also allowed the addition of various species (i.e.  $\text{HCl}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{VCl}_3$ ,  $\text{VH}_3$ ) in order to study their effects on silicon activity. The gas reactant input for the mixing zone was identical to that calculated from the equilibrium source zone(s). Consistent with the source and mixing zone models, the vapor phase of the deposition zone was assumed to be an ideal mixture. Due to the large volumetric flowrate of gases and the relatively small deposition rates in these CVD processes, the depletion of group III, group V and silicon species in the vapor phase as a result of film deposition or wall interaction was neglected. The equilibrium mixing

zone gas mixture served as the input to the deposition zone. Essentially, the above assumption fixed the moles of each element in the vapor and the new equilibrium composition was calculated as a result of temperature change only. This model provided an upper bound for the computed value of the Si activity since the lower temperatures found in the deposition zone shifted the wall interaction towards  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  formation and including the III-V compound deposition with Si incorporation would remove Si from the gas phase. This model, therefore, assumes that the epi-film grows from a supersaturated vapor mixture of pseudo-steady state composition. Furthermore, this procedure avoided having knowledge of the solid silicon activity coefficient. In order to implement this model, the III-V solid phase was not included in the deposition zone, thus allowing calculation of the degree of supersaturation in this zone.

The effect of not accounting for depletion of the group III and V atoms from the vapor phase can be tested by the following simple analysis. The molar growth rate of an epitaxial layer is

$$\dot{g}_m = \dot{g}_l \rho_m A \quad 3-5$$

where

$\dot{g}_m$  = molar growth rate (moles/time)

$\dot{g}_l$  = linear growth rate (length/time)

$\rho$  = compound molar density (moles/length<sup>3</sup>)

$A$  = substrate area (length<sup>2</sup>)

A typical set of operating parameters for a hydride CVD process would specify a total volumetric flowrate of 500 SCCM through each source zone having an inlet composition of 1% HCl to the group III source zone and 1%  $\text{VH}_3$  composition to the group V source zone. Assuming

that all of the HCl reacts to form III-Cl results in  $3.7 \mu\text{-moles/s}$  of group III atoms transported. The molar flowrate of group V atoms would also be  $3.7 \mu\text{-moles/s}$ . Choosing as typical deposition parameters a 2.54 cm diameter circular substrate, a linear growth rate of  $1 \mu\text{m/min}$  and given the molar density of GaAs as  $0.0367 \text{ moles/cm}^3$  [72], the resulting molar growth rate is  $0.31 \mu\text{-moles/s}$ . Thus, in the worst case, less than 10% of the III and V atoms are depleted. The smaller the growth rate and substrate surface area or the larger the volumetric flowrate, the better the approximation becomes. If reaction depletion were indeed important, highly non-uniform film thickness would occur. However, this is not experimentally observed. Similar analyses applied to the GaAs chloride system and the analogous InP systems yield equivalent results.

The activity of silicon in the epi-layer was further studied in the presence and absence of the  $\text{SiO}_2$  reactor wall. Since the deposition zone is typically operated at a lower temperature than the source and mixing zones, inclusion of the reactor wall would be expected to decrease the silicon activity as some of the silicon in the vapor phase is redeposited on the reactor wall in the deposition zone, therefore, providing an additional method of bounding the maximum value of the silicon activity in the epitaxial layer. Justification for neglecting the reactor wall lies in the heterogeneous nature of the gas-wall reaction. Due to the lower temperature of the deposition zone ( $\sim 873 \text{ K}$ ), it is expected that this heterogeneous reaction does not equilibrate as rapidly as it should in the source and mixing zones ( $\sim 973 \text{ K}$ ). This expectation arises from the fact that adsorption reaction rates decrease strongly, and to a lesser extent molecular diffusivities, with

decreasing temperature. Additionally, the mean residence time is typically much smaller in the deposition zone. Thus, the reactor wall in the deposition zone should not interact with the vapor phase as strongly as it does in the source and mixing zones.

In order to carry out parametric analyses of the two processes, "base cases" were chosen for each system around which each parameter could be varied. The base cases were chosen from commonly used operating parameters reported in the literature shown in Tables 3-1 and 3-2, thus providing results which may be compared to experimental results. The chloride system base case parameters were as follows.

Source Zone Temperature = Mixing Zone Temperature : 973 K

Deposition Zone Temperature : 873 K

Inlet  $\text{VCl}_3$  Composition : 1%

Carrier Gas :  $\text{H}_2$

Pressure : 100 kPa

For the hydride system the following base case was chosen.

Source Zone Temperature = Mixing Zone Temperature : 973 K

Deposition Zone Temperature : 873 K

Inlet  $\text{HCl}$  Concentration = Inlet  $\text{VH}_3$  Concentration : 1%

Carrier Gas :  $\text{H}_2$

Pressure : 100 kPa

Typically, the source zone of the hydride system is operated at a higher temperature than that of the chloride system in order to augment the decomposition of  $\text{VH}_3$ . Due to the strong influence of temperature on the species present, the same temperatures were used in both systems in order to provide direct comparison between the chloride and hydride CVD systems.

Table 3-1  
Survey of Typical Operating Parameters for the GaAs and InP Chloride Systems

System	Group III Source Material	% VCl <sub>3</sub> in Feed	Total Flowrate (SCCM)	Zone Temperatures (K)		Pressure (kPa)	Reference
				Source	Mixing Deposition		
GaAs	liquid	0.1-0.7	250-800	1123	1123	983-1043	17
GaAs	solid	0.05-10.0	80	1100	1100	850-1050	21
GaAs	liquid	0.06-0.6	180-800	1123	1123	1000-1100	23
GaAs	liquid	0.6-1.2	> 100	1073	1073	1023	13
GaAs	solid	0.6-1.2	> 100	1073	1073	1023	13
GaAs	liquid	0.15-1.0	600	1123	1123	1023	17
GaAs	liquid	0.1-0.8	130	1123	1123	1023	11
GaAs	liquid	?	50	1073	1073	1023	6
GaAs	liquid	?	50	1073	1073	1023	5
InP	liquid	0.23-0.75	100-800	1023	1023	873-1023	42
InP	solid	0.23-0.75	100-800	1023	1023	873-1023	42
InP	liquid	?	?	973-1123	973-1123	873-1023	24
InP	liquid	0.2-2.0	?	1023	1023	923	27
InP	liquid	0.2-4.0	150-250	1023	1023	923	42
InP	liquid	0.1-2.9	250	973	973	923	28
InP	liquid	1.2	100	1023	1023	923	29
InP	solid	?	?	973	973	873	31
InP	liquid	0.9-4.6	56	873-1100	873-1100	848-973	31
InP	solid	4.6	66	1012-1113	1012-1113	887-991	31
InP	liquid	2.0-10.0	200	923-1023	923-1023	823-993	34
InP	liquid	0.9-4.5	100-200	1023	1023	933-953	33



Table 3-2

## Survey of Typical Operating Parameters for the GaAs and InP Hydride Systems

System	% HCl in Feed	% VH <sub>3</sub> in Feed	Total Flowrate (SCCM)	Zone Temperatures (K)		Deposition	Pressure (kPa)	Reference
				Source	Mixing			
GaAs	0.2-1.0	0.3-1.4	560-2475	1048	1138	973	100	38
GaAs	0.3-3.0	0.3-6.0	30	1023	1073	1023	1-100	41
GaAs	5.0-25	0.2-1.6	1410-2650	1123	1123	1023	100	37
GaAs	0.3-2.4	0.7-1.4	490-980	?	?	973-1023	100	40
GaAs	0.2-2.0	0.05-2.0	?	1023	1023	1023	100	40
InP	2.0-2.6	2.0-2.6	177-1510	?	?	923	100	40
InP	0.65	1.2	500-900	1053-1123	1053-1123	923	100	43
InP	?	?	400-2400	?	973-1223	?	100	45
InP	0.11	0.11	5200	1043-1193	1043-1193	943	100	48
InP	0.3-0.9	0.3-1.9	1690-2400	1173	943-1250	923	100	42

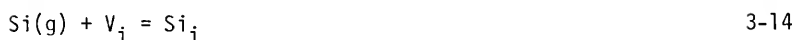
### Solid State Defect Chemistry

The model developed for the deposition zone specified that reactant depletion was not a significant phenomenon. During steady state growth, the compound film is exposed to a vapor phase that is invariant with respect to composition. It follows directly that the vapor phase fugacity of silicon must also be constant and therefore, at equilibrium, the activity of solid silicon in the epitaxial layer must be constant. Thus, prediction of the amount of silicon deposited in an epitaxial layer may be accomplished by determining the solid state silicon concentration as functions of the fixed vapor composition and temperature. A model which relates the point defect structure of the solid to the solid state silicon concentration must therefore be developed and coupled to the calculated vapor phase composition.

Hurle [73-76] has proposed models for native defects in GaAs and for Te, Sn and Ge doped GaAs. These models are extended here to include the formation of antisite defects and to account for the doping of GaAs by Si. The native point defect model allows for the formation of Frenkel and Schottky disorder on both the group III and group V sublattices. Silicon is allowed to reside either on group III or group V lattice sites or as an interstitial. Furthermore, Si substituted on a group III site is allowed to form a complex with a group III vacancy or a Si atom on a group V site.

A set of independent formation reactions for neutral species is shown below.

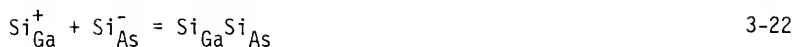




The notation used is consistent with that of Hurle [76]. As an example of this notation, equation 3-6 combines arsenic dimer in the vapor with a vacancy on an interstitial site to yield an arsenic atom on an interstitial site. Thus, in the solid state, the subscripts denote whether an atom (or vacancy) is residing on the Ga or As sublattice or in an interstitial location. Equation 3-6 couples the point defect structure to the vapor phase via the formation of As interstitials. Frenkel defects are accounted for through equations 3-8 and 3-9. Schottky defect formation is given by equation 3-11 and the formation of antisite defects is represented by equations 3-7 and 3-10. Silicon incorporation is shown in equations 3-12, 3-13 and 3-14.

Consistent with Hurle's model [76], the interstitial species are assumed to remain electrically neutral while the other defects may ionize. The following set of formation reactions may be written to represent the ionized species.





The ionization of native point defects is illustrated by equations 3-15 through 3-18 while the amphoteric behavior of silicon is represented by equations 3-19 and 3-20. Equations 3-21 and 3-22 represent silicon complex formation and equation 3-23 accounts for the generation and recombination of electrons and holes.

All that is needed to complete the model is to couple the arsenic partial pressure to that of gallium through the sublimation reaction



and to write the electroneutrality condition

$$[\text{h}^{+}] + [\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}^{+}] + [\text{V}_{\text{As}}^{+}] + [\text{As}_{\text{Ga}}^{+}] = [\text{e}^{-}] + [\text{Si}_{\text{As}}^{-}] + [\text{V}_{\text{Ga}}^{-}] + [\text{Ga}_{\text{As}}^{-}] + [\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}\text{V}_{\text{Ga}}^{-}] \quad 3-25$$

where [ ] denotes concentration.

Expressions for the equilibrium constants for equations 3-6 through 3-24 may be written in the usual manner. As examples, the equilibrium constants for equations 3-6 and 3-7 are

$$K_6 = \gamma_{\text{As}_i} [\text{As}_i] p_{\text{As}_2}^{-1/2} \quad 3-26$$

$$K_7 = \gamma_{\text{As}_{\text{Ga}}} [\text{As}_{\text{Ga}}] \gamma_{\text{V}_{\text{Ga}}}^{-1} [\text{V}_{\text{Ga}}]^{-1} p_{\text{As}_2}^{-1/2} \quad 3-27$$

where  $\gamma_j$  represents the activity coefficient for species  $j$  in the solid solution.

The model represented by equations 3-6 through 3-25 may be simplified by considering the electroneutrality condition. Hurle [76] has shown that, at the temperature of growth, the Frenkel defect on the arsenic sublattice dominates the electron concentration. Thus, the

electroneutrality condition becomes

$$[e^-] = [V_{As}^+] \quad 3-28$$

and the electron concentration at the growth temperature is given by the relation

$$[e^-] = \left[ \frac{K_4 K_{12}}{K_2 \gamma_{As} + \gamma_{e^-}} \right]^{1/2} p_{As_2}^{-1/4} \quad 3-29$$

Assuming that the defect structure of the epitaxial layer is "frozen-in" at the growth temperature, the electron concentration given by equation 3-29 is used to determine the concentration of each defect present. At room temperature, the compensation ratio, which is defined as the ratio of donors to acceptors ( $N_D/N_A$ ), is dominated by the ionized silicon impurities. Using the equilibrium constant expressions for equations 3-6 through 3-24 along with equation 3-29 yields

$$\frac{N_D}{N_A} = \frac{[Si_{Ga}^+]}{[Si_{As}^-] + [Si_{Ga} V_{Ga}^-]} = \frac{1}{a p_{As_2}^{-3/2} + b} \quad 3-30$$

where

$$a = \frac{K_8^3 K_{13} K_{16} \gamma_{e^-} \gamma_{Si_{Ga}^+}}{K_6^3 K_{11} K_{12} K_{19} K_{23} \gamma_{Si_{As}^-} \gamma_{V_{Ga}^+}}$$

$$b = \frac{K_{11} K_{16} K_{18} K_{21} \gamma_{e^-} \gamma_{Si_{Ga}^+}}{K_{23}^2 \gamma_{Si_{Ga} V_{Ga}^-} \gamma_{V_{As}^+}}$$

The dependence of the compensation ratio upon  $As_2$  partial pressure for VPE grown GaAs has been found to be very small ( $N_D/N_A \approx 3$ ). Thus, consistent with Hurle's results for Sn and Ge doped material, equation 3-30 indicates that the dominant acceptor in VPE GaAs is the  $Si_{Ga} V_{Ga}^-$  complex.

An expression for the total silicon present in the epitaxial layer is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 [\text{Si}]_{\text{Total}} = & [\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}] + [\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}^+] + [\text{Si}_{\text{i}}] + [\text{Si}_{\text{As}}] + [\text{Si}_{\text{As}}^-] \\
 & + [\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}\text{V}_{\text{Ga}}^-] + 2[\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}\text{Si}_{\text{As}}] \quad 3-31
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 [\text{Si}]_{\text{Total}} = & [(a\text{P}_{\text{As}_2}^{-3/2} + d\text{P}_{\text{As}_2}^{-5/4} + e\text{P}_{\text{As}_2}^{-1/4} + b + 1)\text{P}_{\text{As}_2}^{3/4} + \\
 & f + g a_{\text{Si}}] a_{\text{Si}} \quad 3-32
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where: } d = (K_8^{5/2} K_{13} K_{16}^{1/2} K_{24} \gamma_{\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}^+} \gamma_{\text{e}}^-) / (K_6^{5/2} K_{11} K_{13} K_{19} \gamma_{\text{V}_{\text{As}}^+} \gamma_{\text{Si}_{\text{As}}^-})$$

$$e = (K_8^{1/2} K_{16} \gamma_{\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}^+} \gamma_{\text{e}}^{1/2}) / (K_6^{1/2} K_{19} \gamma_{\text{V}_{\text{As}}^+} \gamma_{\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}^-})$$

$$f = (K_8^{3/2} K_{14} K_{16}^{1/2} \gamma_{\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}^+} \gamma_{\text{e}}^{1/2}) / (K_6^{3/2} K_{11} K_{12} K_{19} \gamma_{\text{Si}_{\text{i}}} \gamma_{\text{V}_{\text{As}}^+})$$

$$g = (K_8^{3/2} K_{13} K_{16}^{1/2} K_{20} K_{22} \gamma_{\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}^+} \gamma_{\text{e}}^{1/2}) / (K_6^{3/2} K_{24} \gamma_{\text{Si}_{\text{Ga}}\text{Si}_{\text{As}}} \gamma_{\text{V}_{\text{As}}^+})$$

$a_{\text{Si}}$  = activity of silicon in the solid phase.

Currently, the thermodynamic data necessary for the evaluation of the equilibrium constants and activity coefficients is not available. Therefore, a quantitative application of equation 3-32 is not possible. It can be seen, however, that the incorporation of Si into an epitaxial layer increases with increasing  $a_{\text{Si}}$  and depends, in a complicated way, upon  $\text{As}_2$  partial pressure.

This model was developed for GaAs in order to keep the notation manageable. An analogous model can, of course, be constructed for InP, which would yield identical dependencies upon  $a_{\text{Si}}$  and the group V dimer partial pressure.

## CHAPTER FOUR THERMOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### INTRODUCTION

Summarized in this chapter are the thermochemical properties used for the complex chemical equilibrium analysis. The proper selection of a consistent data set is of extreme importance as a small error in a property value can greatly influence the eventual calculated equilibrium composition. That this sensitivity can be important is nicely illustrated in the Si-Cl-H subsystem as discussed later. Essentially, what is required for these calculations is a means of specifying the partial molar Gibbs energy of each species believed to be present as a function of temperature, pressure and composition. Approximately 150 species were initially examined while only those species that would be present at a mole fraction  $> 10^{-14}$  were included in the analysis. The scheme of representing the data was to fix the zero enthalpy scale at 298 K and 1 atm with the pure components (standard states) Ga(c), As(c), In(c), white P(c),  $H_2(g)$ , Si(c),  $Cl_2(g)$  and  $O_2(g)$ . The enthalpy of formation of the remaining components at the standard conditions from the reference components was then determined. In addition, the absolute entropy at the standard conditions for each species was selected which allowed a calculation of the standard Gibbs energy change for all possible reactions at 298 K and 1 atm. Finally, knowledge of the constant pressure heat capacity and assuming ideal gas behavior allows the Gibbs energy to be determined at any temperature and pressure. The gas phase was assumed to be a solution of ideal gases due

to the low pressure and high temperatures investigated. For the condensed solutions, the pressure dependence of the thermochemical properties was neglected. However, the moderate negative deviations from ideal behavior in composition dependence for the liquid source mixtures was accounted for and represents one of the significant refinements contained in these calculations.

Three pieces of information were required for each species with the standard enthalpy of formation being the most critical, particularly at the lower temperatures. It is for this quantity that the most uncertainty exists in the reported value. On the other hand, the standard entropy is generally quite accurately known, either from low temperature heat capacity measurements or spectroscopic studies. The high temperature heat capacities were sometimes estimated, but there exists a partial cancellation of its effect when calculating Gibbs energy changes. Presented below is a discussion of the properties selected. It is noted that in many instances the thermochemical data presented in the JANAF tables [77-79] were used and are discussed in these tables, therefore precluding a discussion here.

#### Psuedo-Steady State Constraint for Liquid Source Boat

It has been observed that during VPE of GaAs and InP using a liquid source boat of pure group III metal in the chloride process, an initial transient period exists in which the composition of the gas stream leaving the source region is a function of time. Initially, the pure metal boat is dissolving group V atoms thus producing an excess of group III chloride. As the metal becomes saturated with the group V element, a thin crust of the compound is formed at the top surface since the density of the compound is less than that of the saturated liquid. It



is observed that the crust thickness reaches a steady state value and therefore, from a simple mass balance, the vapor phase will contain all of the group V atoms in the input stream plus the amount of group V atoms generated from the saturated liquid (due to reaction of chlorine with the group III atom). The exact amount of group V element produced from the source boat is therefore a function of the temperature (i.e. the equilibrium group V mole fraction in the liquid is a function of temperature and the amount of group III atoms leaving depends on the form in which they leave (e.g.  $\text{IIICl}$ ,  $\text{IIICl}_3$ ,  $\text{III}$ , etc.)) and the flow rate (i.e. mass transfer efficiency). The mechanism by which the group III and V atoms reach the gas/solid interface is not known but is not required for the thermodynamic model presented here as mass transfer barriers (e.g. the crust) are assumed not to be present. All that is required is to assume a new species exists having a stoichiometry equivalent to the saturated liquid composition.

The thermodynamic properties of the hypothetical liquid species,  $A_{1-x}B_x(l)$ , can be estimated in the following manner. Letting A represent the group III atom and B the group V atom, consider the reaction sequence



all occurring at the source temperature,  $T$ . Since  $A(c)$  and  $B(c)$  are in the pure state, the Gibbs energy changes for reactions 4-1 and 4-2 are the Gibbs energies of formation for the liquid species and can be calculated from the thermodynamic sequence: solid element A or B is taken from  $T$  to its melting temperature  $T_m^A$  or  $T_m^B$ , the solid element is melted,

the liquid element is taken from the melting temperature to the original temperature of interest. Approximating the heat capacity difference between the pure liquid and pure solid,  $\Delta C_p$ , as a constant, the Gibbs energy change for reactions 4-1 and 4-2 are

$$\Delta G_1 = (1-x) \left\{ \Delta H_m^A \left( 1 - \frac{T}{T_m^A} \right) + \Delta C_p^A \left( T - T_m^A - T \ln \left[ \frac{T}{T_m^A} \right] \right) \right\} \quad 4-4$$

and

$$\Delta G_2 = x \left\{ \Delta H_m^B \left( 1 - \frac{T}{T_m^B} \right) + \Delta C_p^B \left( T - T_m^B - T \ln \left[ \frac{T}{T_m^B} \right] \right) \right\} \quad 4-5$$

The Gibbs energy change of the third reaction is simply the Gibbs energy of mixing. Assuming that a simple solution model describes the liquid behavior results in

$$\Delta G_3 = (a + bT) \times (1-x) + RT[x \ln x + (1-x) \ln(1-x)] \quad 4-6$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are adjustable parameters determined in conjunction with solid-liquid equilibrium data.

The sum of reactions 4-1 to 4-3 is the desired formation reaction



while the corresponding Gibbs energy of formation of  $A_{1-x}B_x(l)$  is the sum of  $\Delta G_1$  to  $\Delta G_3$ . Given the source temperature,  $T$ , the procedure is to first calculate the liquidus composition,  $x$ , from the implicit equation

$$\frac{T}{T_m^{AB}} H_m^{AB} - R \ln[4x(1-x)] + b \left[ \frac{1}{2} - x^2 - (1-x)^2 \right] = H_m^{AB} - a \left[ \frac{1}{2} - x^2 - (1-x)^2 \right] \quad 4-8$$

where  $\Delta H_m^{AB}$  and  $T_m^{AB}$  are the enthalpy of fusion and melting temperature of the solid compound AB and  $R$  is the gas constant. Once the equilibrium group V composition is determined the standard Gibbs energy of formation

Table 4-1

Thermochemical Properties of GaAs and InP Required

for Calculating  $\Delta G_f^\circ[A_{1-x}B_x(l), T]$ 

Property	GaAs	Reference	InP	Reference
$T_m^{AB}(K)$	1511	72	1332	71,72,74
$\Delta H_m^{Al}(kcal/mole)$	25.14	72	14.4	71,72,73
a (cal/mole)	4666	see text	5055	75
b (cal/mole - K)	-8.74	see text	-5.0	75

Table 4-2

Thermochemical Properties of the Elements Ga, In, As and P

Required for Calculating  $\Delta G_f^\circ[A_{1-x}B_x(l), T]$ 

Property	Ga	Ref.	In	Ref.	As	Ref.	P	Ref.
$T_m(K)$	302.9	84	429.76	84	1090	17	313.3	29
$\Delta H_m(kcal/mole)$	1.336	84	0.78	84	5.123	17	0.157	29
$\Delta C_p(cal/mole - K)$	0.27	84	-0.2	84	1.0	estimated	0.472	84

of  $A_{1-x}B_x(l)$  can be calculated from equations 4-4 to 4-6 given  $T$ ,  $x$  and the required thermochemical properties. Tables 4-1 and 4-2 summarize the thermochemical properties used in these calculations. The adjustable parameters  $a$  and  $b$  for GaAs were determined by reduction of the liquidus measurements of Clariou et al. [80], Hall [81], Muszynski and Riabeev [82] and Osamura et al. [83] using a maximum likelihood algorithm.

#### The Ga-As-Cl-H System

The enthalpy of vaporization of As(c) has been investigated quite extensively with a reported range [84-99] at 298 K of 34.4 to 38.54 kcal/mole corresponding to the standard enthalpy of formation for  $As_4(g)$ . The literature has been summarized by Hultgren et al. [84] to 1973, while a more recent measurement of Rusin et al. [85] by a static method produced a value of  $H_f^\circ(As_4, g, 298 K) = 38.14$  kcal/mole. In addition, Rau [100] has measured the total vapor pressure over solid and liquid arsenic from 850 to 1400 K with a Bourdon gauge. Analysis of the low temperature results indicated  $H_f^\circ(As_4, g, 298 K) = 37.34 \pm 0.2$  kcal/mole. The value selected was 37.5 kcal/mole on the basis that the static methods are believed to be more reliable.

The dissociation enthalpy,  $H_f^\circ(As_4 = 2As_2, 298 K)$ , has received considerable investigation with early mass spectrometric studies producing values in the range of 61.5 to 73.5 kcal/mole [101-105]. These measurements are suspected of overestimating the  $As_4$  partial pressure as a result of the use of a low condensation coefficient for  $As_4$ . More recent determinations using  $MoAs_2$ ,  $Mo_2As_3$ , GaAs, InAs and InAs + InSb sources with improved Knudsen-cell mass-spectrometer designs [106-108] and reduction of PVT measurements [100] have indicated much lower values

for the dissociation enthalpy ( $54.21 \pm 1.5$ ,  $54.26 \pm 1.1$ ,  $54.2 \pm 1.4$  and  $54.8 \pm 1.0$  kcal/mole, respectively). The value selected here is the average of these four measurements,  $54.4 \pm 1.5$  kcal/mole. Using the selected values of the standard enthalpies,  $\Delta H_f^0(\text{GaAs}, c, 298 \text{ K}) = -19.52$  kcal/mole,  $\Delta H_f^0(\text{As}_4, g, 298 \text{ K}) = 37.5$  kcal/mole and the above dissociation enthalpy yields  $\Delta H^0(\text{GaAs}(c) = \text{Ga}(c) + \frac{1}{2} \text{As}_2(g), 298 \text{ K}) = 42.5$  kcal/mole. This can be compared to the experimentally determined values of 44.85 [106], 45.06 [107] and 45.4 [109] kcal/mole.

The value adopted for  $\Delta H_f^0(\text{GaAs}, c, 298 \text{ K})$  is -19.52 kcal/mole as determined by Martosudirdjo and Pratt [110] with a precipitation calorimetric technique. This value can be compared to the emf work of Abbasov [111] and Sirota and Yushevich [112] in which values of -19.4 and -20.96 kcal/mole were reported, respectively. These latter two values are expected to include uncertainties due to the assumed valency of Ga in the galvanic cell and the inability to accurately determine the full temperature dependence over the relatively small temperature range of measurement. In addition, a considerable number of dissociation pressure studies [102-107, 113-118] and flow equilibration investigations with reactive gases [109, 119] have been performed which contain information about solid GaAs. However, knowledge of the thermodynamic properties of other species is required (i.e.  $\text{As}_2(g)$ ,  $\text{As}_4(g)$ ,  $\text{GaCl}(g)$ , etc.) to specify the properties of  $\text{GaAs}(c)$ . Thus, the uncertainty in these properties must be considered in addition to those associated with the measurements. This work was, however, used as a test of internal consistency in the total data set. The standard entropy of GaAs,  $S^0(\text{GaAs}, c, 298 \text{ K})$  was taken from the low temperature heat capacity measurements of Piesbergen [120] while the high temperature heat capacity was taken from the

measurements of Lichter and Sommelet [121] and are in good agreement with the work of Cox and Pool [122] and the estimates of Marina et al. [123] and Maslov and Maslov [124].

Very little experimental information is available for the arsenic chlorides. The reported range for the enthalpy of formation of  $\text{AsCl}_3(\text{g})$  is -52 to -72 kcal/mole [97, 99, 125-130]. The value adopted was  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{AsCl}_3, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -62.7 \text{ kcal/mole}$ , taken from the enthalpy of formation of the liquid and the enthalpy of vaporization. The enthalpy of formation of the mono and dichlorides were taken from the estimates of Shaulov and Mosin [127] as was the standard entropy and heat capacity. The enthalpy of formation of arsine was taken as  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{AsH}_3, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = 16.0 \pm 1.5 \text{ kcal/mole}$  based on the work of Gunn [131] and reported tabulations [97-99]. Finally, the thermochemical properties of the remaining arsenic hydrides were estimated by comparison with the hydrides of N, P and Sb [77-79].

The thermodynamic information available for the chlorides of gallium is somewhat scarce and inconsistent. The enthalpy of formation for  $\text{GaCl}_3(\text{g})$  was determined from  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{GaCl}_3, \text{c}, 298 \text{ K}) = -125.0 \text{ kcal/mole}$  [132] and the enthalpy of sublimation taken from the vapor pressure measurements of Kuniya et al. [133],  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{GaCl}_3, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -107.3 \pm 3 \text{ kcal/mole}$ . The enthalpy of formation of gallium monochloride has the reported value  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{GaCl}, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -19.5 \text{ kcal/mole}$  and is taken from the dissociation energy of Barrow [134]. However, a value of  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{GaCl}, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -12.0 \text{ kcal/mole}$  is obtained using  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{GaAs}(\text{c}) + \text{HCl}(\text{g}) = \text{GaCl}(\text{g}) + \frac{1}{4} \text{As}_4(\text{g}) + \frac{1}{2} \text{H}_2(\text{g}), 950 \text{ K}) = 37.52 \pm 8 \text{ kcal/mole}$  determined by Battat et al. [119] and the thermochemical data selected for the other species. These results are in sharp contrast to the vapor pressure

measurements of Kuniya et al. [133] who report a second law  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{GaCl}_3(\text{g})) = \text{GaCl}(\text{g}) + \text{Cl}_2(\text{g}), 1083 \text{ K}) = 45.912 \text{ kcal/mole}$ . The value selected was  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{GaCl}, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -17.0 \pm 5 \text{ kcal/mole}$  based on the first two reports, considering the value of Barrow [134] slightly more due to the uncertainties found in the enthalpy of formation for the other species in the reaction studied by Battat et al. [119]. The enthalpy of formation for gallium dichloride was taken from the measurements of Battat et al. [119] using the thermochemical data selected here and correcting the second law entropy to that calculated by Shaulov and Mosin [135]. The enthalpy of dimerization has been investigated by several authors [133, 136-139] with the reported enthalpy and entropy of dimerization in the range,  $\Delta H^\circ(2\text{GaCl}_3(\text{g}) = \text{Ga}_2\text{Cl}_6(\text{g}), 298 \text{ K}) = -22.6 \text{ to } -20.9 \text{ kcal/mole}$  and  $S^\circ(2\text{GaCl}_3(\text{g}) = \text{Ga}_2\text{Cl}_6(\text{g}), 298 \text{ K}) = -31.66 \text{ to } -36.0 \text{ cal/mole-K}$ . Accepting the enthalpy and entropy of dimerization as  $-21.0 \text{ kcal/mole}$  and  $-33.0 \text{ cal/mole-K}$ , respectively, and combining these results with the selected thermochemical data for  $\text{GaCl}_3$  produces  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{Ga}_2\text{Cl}_6, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -235.6 \pm 10 \text{ kcal/mole}$  and  $S^\circ(\text{Ga}_2\text{Cl}_6, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = 127 \pm 6.0 \text{ cal/mole-K}$ . The standard entropy and heat capacity for  $\text{GaCl}$ ,  $\text{GaCl}_2$  and  $\text{GaCl}_3$  were taken from Shaulov and Mosin [135] while the heat capacity of  $\text{Ga}_2\text{Cl}_6$  was approximated by the value for  $\text{Al}_2\text{Cl}_6$  [77]. In addition, other species are expected to exist (i.e.  $\text{Ga}_2\text{Cl}_4$ ,  $\text{Ga}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) [140, 141], but no thermochemical data is available.

#### The In-P-Cl-H System

The standard entropy at 298 K and the constant pressure heat capacity of solid and vapor In were taken from Hultgren et al. [84]. As summarized by Hultgren et al. [84], the standard enthalpy of vaporization of solid In at 298 K that results from application of the third law

to the vapor pressure measurements produces the range of 49.8 to 58.1 kcal/mole for  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{In, g, 298 K})$ . More recent mass spectrometric results of Panish and Arthur [132] and Farrow [142] suggest the values of 56.6 and 58.03 kcal/mole, respectively, with the average of these two values adopted here. In a similar fashion, the thermochemical properties of phosphorous selected by Hultgren et al. [84] or the JANAF tables [77] are in agreement with the more recent results [132] and were adopted for this study. However, there exists a small difference in the reported  $\Delta H^\circ(298 \text{ K})$  of the reaction:  $\text{P}_4(\text{g}) = 2\text{P}_2(\text{g})$ . Foxon et al. [143] report a value of  $\Delta H^\circ(298 \text{ K}) = 57.9 \pm 1$  kcal/mole while Panish and Arthur [132] reported  $\Delta H^\circ(298 \text{ K}) = 53.8 \pm 0.8$  kcal/mole from third law calculations of their mass spectrometric results. The third law reduction of the mass spectrometric results of Farrow [142] produces a value of  $\Delta H^\circ(298 \text{ K}) = 58.04 \pm 0.3$  kcal/mole, while the JANAF tables [77] suggest  $\Delta H^\circ(298 \text{ K}) = 54.6 \pm 1.1$  kcal/mole. An average value was selected of  $\Delta H^\circ(298 \text{ K}) = 56.1 \pm 2.0$  kcal/mole.

A rather wide range in the reported values for the standard enthalpy of formation of solid InP exists (-13.52 to -22.3 kcal/mole). As shown in Table 4-3, the value selected was the average of the two solution calorimetric determinations as this is a direct determination of the property. The results from the vapor pressure measurements are subject to uncertainties in the properties of the vapor phase species and also the heat capacity of solid InP (e.g. Panish and Arthur [132] used  $C_p$  for AlSb which produces a decrease in  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{InP, c, 298 K})$  of 0.5 kcal/mole, when compared to  $C_p(\text{InP, c, T})$  of Pankratz [144]). The standard entropy of InP(c) was taken from the low temperature heat capacity measurements of Piesbergen [120] while the heat capacity



Table 4-3

## The Reported Standard Enthalpy of Formation of

<u>InP(c), <math>\Delta H_f^\circ</math>(InP, c, 298 K)</u>		
$\Delta H_{f,298}^\circ$ [InP(c)] kcal/mole	Method	Reference
-18.83 $\pm$ 0.7 <sup>(a)</sup>	flow equilibration	132
-18.58 $\pm$ 0.7 <sup>(b)</sup>	mass spectrometry	132
-22.3 $\pm$ 1.5	mass spectrometry	104
-19.33 $\pm$ 0.1 <sup>(c)</sup>	vapor pressure	109, 145
-17.83 $\pm$ 1.4 <sup>(d)</sup>	calculated	109
-21.2	calculated	146
-20.33 <sup>(e)</sup>	mass spectrometry	142, 143
-13.52 $\pm$ 0.26	solution calorimetry	110
-21.0 $\pm$ 2	bomb calorimetry	147
-21.5 $\pm$ 1.5	bomb calorimetry	144, 148
-14.5 $\pm$ 0.44	solution calorimetry	referenced in 110

(a)  $\text{InP(c)} = \text{In(c)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{P}_2(\text{g})$ ,  $H_{298}^\circ = 360$  kcal/mole

$H_{f,298}^\circ[\text{P}_2(\text{g})]$  taken as 34.34 kcal/mole

(b)  $\text{InP(c)} = \text{In(c)} + \frac{1}{4} \text{P}_4(\text{g})$ ,  $H_{298}^\circ = 22.1$  kcal/mole

$H_{f,298}^\circ[\text{P}_4(\text{g})]$  taken as 14.08 kcal/mole

(c)  $\text{InP(c)} = \text{In(c)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{P}_2(\text{g})$ ,  $H_{298}^\circ = 36.5$  kcal/mole

$H_{f,298}^\circ[\text{P}_2(\text{g})]$  taken as 34.34 kcal/mole

(d)  $\text{InP(c)} = \text{In(c)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{P}_2(\text{g})$ ,  $H_{298}^\circ = 35.0$  kcal/mole

$H_{f,298}^\circ[\text{P}_2(\text{g})]$  taken as 34.34 kcal/mole

(e)  $\text{InP(c)} = \text{In(c)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{P}_2(\text{g})$ ,  $H_{298}^\circ = 37.50 \pm 0.1$  kcal/mole

$H_{f,298}^\circ[\text{P}_2(\text{g})]$  taken as 34.34 kcal/mole

adopted was that measured by Pankratz [144]. The result is in good agreement with the 298 K value of Piesbergen [120] and in fair agreement with the high temperature measurements of Cox and Pool [122] and the suggested value of Maslov and Maslov [124].

Barrow [134] reports the dissociation energy of InCl to be 102.5 kcal/mole and combining this with the value of the enthalpy of formation of In(g) and Cl(g) yields  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{InCl}, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -16.21 \text{ kcal/mole}$ . However, the atomic fluorescence value for the dissociation energy also reported by Barrow [134] ( $D_0 = 104.6 \text{ kcal/mole}$ ) yields  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{InCl}, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -18.31 \text{ kcal/mole}$ . Klemm and Brautigan [149] reported  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{InCl}, \text{c}, 273 \text{ K}) = -44.6 \text{ kcal/mole}$  and when combined with the enthalpy of sublimation,  $\Delta H_s^\circ(\text{InCl}, \text{c}, 298 \text{ K}) = 27.8 \text{ kcal/mole}$  [150] gives  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{InCl}, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -16.8 \text{ kcal/mole}$  and is the value adopted here. The standard entropy of InCl was taken from the calculations of Malakova and Pashinkin [151] while the heat capacity is that recommended by Kelly [152]. The standard enthalpy of formation and entropy of  $\text{InCl}_2$  was taken from the estimate of Glassner [153] and the heat capacity is the same as that listed for  $\text{GaCl}_2$ . The standard enthalpy of formation and entropy of  $\text{GaCl}_3$  was taken to be the values suggested by Mullin and Hurle [97] and the constant pressure heat capacity estimated by Shaw [98]. The thermochemical properties of the dimer,  $\text{In}_2\text{Cl}_6$ , were taken from the values suggested by Schafer and Binnewies [139].

The standard enthalpy of formation of phosphine was taken from the decomposition studies of Gunn and Green [154] and the remaining properties from the JANAF tables [77, 79]. The JANAF tables were also used for the other phosphorous hydrides, chlorides and oxide vapor phase species.

### The Si-Cl-H System

The thermochemical properties of Si have been reviewed by Hultgren et al. [84] and the JANAF tables [77]. In particular, there exists a rather large range in the reported third law values of the standard enthalpy of vaporization,  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{Si, g, 298 K}) = 86.75$  to  $109.06$  kcal/mole. The value selected was in between the Knudsen studies of Davis et al. [155] and Grieveson and Alcock [156].

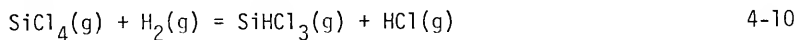
The Si-Cl-H system has received considerable attention due to its importance in the semiconductor industry. An excellent review of the literature for this system with equilibrium calculations presented is given by Hunt and Sirtl [157] and Sirtl et al. [158]. The posture taken here is to assume that  $\text{SiCl}_4$  has the most reliable thermodynamic data with these values being fixed by the JANAF tables [77]. The reaction



has been investigated extensively [159-164]. Employing the thermochemical data for the three species in reaction 4-1 from the JANAF tables [77], third law values of  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiCl}_2, \text{g, 298 K})$  were calculated from the experimental data. The effusion-mass spectrometric determination of Farber and Srivastava [164] over the temperature range of 1593 K to 1792 K produced the value,  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiCl}_2, \text{g, 298 K}) = -40.39 \pm 0.3$  kcal/mole and showed no temperature dependence. This result is in good agreement with flow equilibration data of Schafer et al. [159] (1273 K to 1473 K), Teichmann and Wolf [160] (1223 K to 1575 K) and the static measurements of Schafer and Nicki [163] (1398 K to 1573 K), with third law values of -40.62, -40.54 and -40.44 kcal/mole, respectively. The flow equilibrium values of Antipin and Sergeev [161] (1273 K to 1673 K) and the static values of Ishino et al. [162] (1448 K to 1573 K)

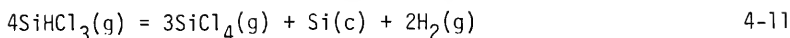
were more negative and exhibited a marked temperature dependence. On the basis of these calculations, the value  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiCl}_2, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -40.4 \text{ kcal/mole}$  was selected. The values for the standard enthalpies of formation of the less stable chlorine  $\text{SiCl}$  and  $\text{SiCl}_3$  were computed from the high temperature flow equilibrium studies of Farber and Srivastava [164]. In the third law analysis, the data previously discussed was used in conjunction with the heat capacity for  $\text{SiCl}$  and  $\text{SiCl}_3$ , suggested by the JANAF tables [77] and produced the value of  $47.4 \pm 0.6$  and  $-93.3 \pm 0.5 \text{ kcal/mole}$ , respectively. These results are in agreement with the analysis of Rusin et al. [165-167] on the total pressure measurements of Schafer and Nicki [163]. No additional thermodynamic studies of  $\text{Si}_2\text{Cl}_6$  are known to exist and thus the properties suggested by Hunt and Sirtl [157] were adopted.

It was pointed out by Hunt and Sirtl [157] that the mole ratio of  $\text{SiCl}_4$  to  $\text{SiHCl}_3$  is very sensitive to the assumed value of the standard enthalpy of formation of  $\text{SiHCl}_3$ . Indeed, this ratio is seen to vary by nearly four orders of magnitude at 1000 K when bounded by the experimental determinations of  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiHCl}_3, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K})$ . Since the work of Hunt and Sirtl [157] was published, two additional experimental investigations of the thermodynamic properties of  $\text{SiHCl}_3$  have been performed. Farber and Srivastava [168], from effusion-mass spectrometric measurements, determined the reaction enthalpy for



over the temperature range 1155 K to 1500 K. Employing the thermodynamic data listed in Table 4-4 and these results, a relative temperature insensitive third law value for  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiHCl}_3, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -119.30 \pm 1.0 \text{ kcal/mole}$  is obtained. Using both static and dynamic methods,

Wolf and Teichmann [169] investigated reaction 4-10 and the reaction



Third law values for  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiHCl}_3, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K})$  were calculated from the original results of these authors. The values obtained for reaction 4-11 and for the three data sets with reaction 4-10 were  $-119.47 \pm 0.4$ ,  $-119.83 \pm 0.9$ ,  $-119.58 \pm 0.2$  and  $-119.50 \pm 0.6$  kcal/mole and the results are seen to be in good agreement with the measurements of Farber and Srivastava [168]. Since these values were nearly 3 kcal/mole more negative than those developed by Hunt and Sirtl [157], values of  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiHCl}_3, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K})$  were calculated for various experimental  $\text{SiCl}_4/\text{SiHCl}_3$  ratios in a fashion similar to Hunt and Sirtl. The experimental data consisted of a variety of feed mixtures (e.g.  $\text{SiCl}_4/\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2/\text{HCl}$ ,  $\text{SiHCl}_3/\text{H}_2$ ) which were contacted with  $\text{Si}(\text{c})$  at different temperatures during a deposition/etching process. The results of these calculations for 14 data sets suggested  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiHCl}_3, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -118.16 \pm 1.70$  kcal/mole. Based on these results and the new experimental determinations, the value adopted was  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiHCl}_3, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -119.5 \pm 1.5$  kcal/mole.

The standard enthalpy of formation of the di- and mono-chloro-silanes was taken from the recent measurements of Farber and Srivastava [168]. In order to obtain a consistent data set, third law values of these quantities were calculated from the original experimental data while using the data base adopted here. The adopted values were  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -75.5 \pm 2$  kcal/mole and  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{SiH}_3\text{Cl}, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = -32.7 \pm 2.5$  kcal/mole.

No additional experimental information on the thermochemistry of  $\text{SiH}_4$  and  $\text{SiH}$  exists and thus the JANAF tables recommendation was adopted. The standard enthalpy of formation of disilane was taken from the

calculations of Potzinger et al. [170],  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{Si}_2\text{H}_6, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = 17.1 \pm 3 \text{ kcal/mole}$  and is compared with the calculations of O'Neal and Ring [171],  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{Si}_2\text{H}_6, \text{g}, 298 \text{ K}) = 19.1 \text{ kcal/mole}$  and the value of 16.0 kcal/mole obtained from the estimated enthalpy of formation for  $\text{SiH}_3$  (35 kcal/mole) and Si-Si (-54 kcal/mole). The standard entropy and heat capacity of  $\text{Si}_2\text{H}_6$  were obtained by comparison with  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$ .

A summary of the selected thermochemical properties (with two additional references [172, 173]) is presented in Table 4-4. In order that the stability of the various species might easily be compared, the standard molar Gibbs energies of formation are plotted in Figures 4-1 through 4-5.

Table 4-4

## Selected Thermochemical Values

Specie	$\Delta H_f^\circ, 298 \text{ K}$ kcal/mole	Ref.	$S_{298}^\circ$ cal/mole-K	Ref.	$C_p^\circ$ cal/mole-K			Form*	Ref.
					a	b $\times 10^3$	c $\times 10^{-5}$		
As(c)	0	--	8.53 $\pm$ 0.1	84	6.736	1.50	-0.1504	-0.1967	1 84
As(g)	68.7 $\pm$ 10.0	84	41.611 $\pm$ 0.1	84	4.968	----	----	----	1 84
As <sub>2</sub> (g)	45.95 $\pm$ 10.0	**	57.546 $\pm$ 0.1	84	7.630	-0.169	-0.3708	0.212	1 84
As <sub>3</sub> (g)	52.2 $\pm$ 1.0	84	74.121 $\pm$ 0.1	84	13.836	-0.1365	-0.5889	0.172	1 84
As <sub>4</sub> (g)	37.5 $\pm$ 0.6	**	78.232 $\pm$ 0.1	84	18.516	-0.1756	-1.1128	0.218	1 84
AsCl(g)	27 $\pm$ 3	127	66.24 $\pm$ 2.0	127	8.878	0.0453	-0.3815	----	1 127
AsCl <sub>2</sub> (g)	14.5 $\pm$ 4	127	72.04 $\pm$ 2	127	13.79	0.08566	-0.8524	----	1 127
AsCl <sub>3</sub> (g)	-62.7 $\pm$ 4.0	**	77.97 $\pm$ 2.0	127	19.76	0.0726	-1.5766	----	1 127
AsH(g)	58 $\pm$ 12	**	51 $\pm$ 3	**	6.4	1.432	0.108	----	1 77
AsH <sub>3</sub> (g)	16 $\pm$ 2	97	53.22 $\pm$ 0.8	173	10.07	5.42	-2.20	----	1 152
Cl(g)	28.992 $\pm$ 0.002	172	39.454 $\pm$ 0.005	172	5.779	-0.4083	-0.387	----	1 78
Cl <sub>2</sub> (g)	0	--	53.29 $\pm$ 0.01	172	8.8	0.208	-0.67	----	1 77
Ga(c)	0	--	9.758 $\pm$ 0.05	84	6.40	----	----	----	1 84
Ga(g)	65.0 $\pm$ 0.05	84	40.375 $\pm$ 0.05	84	30.138	2.09	-2.662	-3.812	1 84
GaCl(g)	-17.0 $\pm$ 5	**	57.36 $\pm$ 1.0	134	8.925	1.021	-0.3949	----	1 135
GaCl <sub>2</sub> (g)	59.2 $\pm$ 5	119	72.09 $\pm$ 1.5	134	13.84	5.15	-0.8644	----	1 135
GaCl <sub>3</sub> (g)	-107.3 $\pm$ 3	133	79.93 $\pm$ 2.0	134	19.74	0.0744	-1.690	----	1 135
Ga <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>6</sub> (g)	-235.6 $\pm$ 10	**	127.9 $\pm$ 6.0	**	43.06	0.427	-4.922	----	1 77
H(g)	52.103 $\pm$ 0.001	172	27.391 $\pm$ 0.004	172	4.968	----	----	----	1 79
H <sub>2</sub> (g)	0	--	31.207 $\pm$ 0.008	172	15.256	2.12	-0.5906	-1.462	1 77
HCl(g)	-22.063 $\pm$ 0.03	172	44.643 $\pm$ 0.008	172	6.224	1.29	0.3251	----	1 77

Table 4-4 - continued

Species	$\Delta H_f^\circ$ kcal/mole	Ref.	$S_{298}^\circ$ cal/mole-K	Ref.	$C_p$ cal/mole-K			Form*	Ref.
					a	b $\times 10^3$	c $\times 10^{-5}$		
H <sub>2</sub> O(g)	-57.795 $\pm$ 0.01	172	45.106 $\pm$ 0.01	172	3.429	2.44	0.570	0.5682	1 77
In(c)	0	--	13.82 $\pm$ 0.2	84	4.59	6.04	----	----	1 84
In(g)	57.3 $\pm$ 1.0	**	41.507 $\pm$ 0.2	84	3.575	4.426	----	-1.689 $\times 10^{-6}$	2 84
InCl(g)	-16.8 $\pm$ 1.0	**	59.26 $\pm$ 0.8	151	8.93	----	-0.209	----	1 152
InCl <sub>2</sub> (g)	-58.4 $\pm$ 1.0	153	73.4 $\pm$ 1.0	153	13.84	0.0515	0.8644	----	1 135
InCl <sub>3</sub> (g)	-89.4 $\pm$ 4	97	83.8 $\pm$ 1.0	97	18.0	1.7	----	----	1 35
In <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>6</sub> (g)	208.5 $\pm$ 10	139	129.7 $\pm$ 2.0	139	40.0	3.4	----	----	1 139
O(g)	59.553 $\pm$ 0.2	172	38.467 $\pm$ 0.005	172	5.542	0.061	0.1688	-0.0899	1 79
O <sub>2</sub> (g)	0	--	49.005 $\pm$ 0.008	172	-7.902	-1.15	0.8877	2.504	1 77
P(c), white	0	--	9.82 $\pm$ 0.02	77	5.7	----	----	----	1 77
P(g)	75.62 $\pm$ 0.25	84	38.98 $\pm$ 0.02	84	4.968	----	----	----	1 77
P <sub>2</sub> (g)	34.34 $\pm$ 0.9	84	52.11 $\pm$ 0.1	77	8.236	8.6618	0.6036	----	1 77
P <sub>4</sub> (g)	12.58 $\pm$ 2	**	66.89 $\pm$ 0.1	84	19.2	0.5744	-0.2974	----	1 77
PCl(g)	31.0 $\pm$ 2.0	77	56.8 $\pm$ 1.0	77	7.535	-0.0581	-0.4304	0.2216	1 77
PCl <sub>3</sub> (g)	-68.67 $\pm$ 1.4	77	74.47 $\pm$ 0.1	77	14.294	-0.6308	-1.787	0.8773	1 77
PCl <sub>5</sub> (g)	-95.5 $\pm$ 2	128	83.5 $\pm$ 1.0	128	23.4	12.0	----	----	1 154
PH(g)	56.2 $\pm$ 8	77	46.9 $\pm$ 2.0	77	6.4	1.432	0.108	----	1 77
PH <sub>2</sub> (g)	25.9 $\pm$ 20	77	50.8 $\pm$ 2.0	77	6.524	6.237	----	-1.506 $\times 10^{-6}$	2 77
PH <sub>3</sub> (g)	1.3 $\pm$ 0.4	154	50.24 $\pm$ 1.0	77	4.77	14.97	-4.388 $\times 10^{-12}$	----	2 77
PO(g)	-5.5 $\pm$ 1.5	78	53.218 $\pm$ 0.005	78	-5.225	-1.256	0.7156	2.173	1 78
Si(c)	0	--	4.486 $\pm$ 0.02	172	5.73	0.6811	-1.056	----	1 77
Si(g)	108 $\pm$ 1.0	**	40.123 $\pm$ 0.003	84	4.82	0.18	0.42	----	1 77
SiCl(g)	47.4 $\pm$ 0.6	168	56.82 $\pm$ 0.04	77	8.87	0.1387	-0.328	----	1 77
SiCl <sub>2</sub> (g)	-40.4 $\pm$ 0.6	**	67.35 $\pm$ 1.0	78	11.263	-0.234	-1.105	0.4061	1 78



Table 4-4 - continued

Specie	$\Delta H_f^{298}$ K kcal/mole	Ref.	$S_{298}^0$ cal/mole-K	Ref.	$C_p^0$ cal/mole-K				Form*	Ref.
					a	b $\times 10^3$	c $\times 10^{-5}$	d		
SiCl <sub>3</sub> (g)	-99.3 $\pm$ 0.6	168	76.17 $\pm$ 1.5	77	12.797	-0.762	-1.761	1.112	1	77
SiCl <sub>4</sub> (g)	-158.4 $\pm$ 0.3	78	79.07 $\pm$ 0.05	78	14.511	-1.21	-2.416	1.776	1	78
SiH(g)	90.0 $\pm$ 2.0	77	47.306 $\pm$ 0.05	77	6.63	-1.423	0.0988	----	1	77
SiH <sub>4</sub> (g)	8.2 $\pm$ 0.8	77	48.89 $\pm$ 0.01	77	-74.824	-6.17	3.329	14.597	1	77
SiHCl <sub>3</sub> (g)	-119.5 $\pm$ 1.0	**	74.924 $\pm$ 2.0	77	-7.910	-2.42	-1.535	4.983	1	77
SiH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> (g)	-75.5 $\pm$ 2.0	164	68.531 $\pm$ 2.0	77	-31.537	-3.85	-0.3446	8.408	1	77
SiH <sub>3</sub> Cl(g)	-32.7 $\pm$ 2.5	164	59.9 $\pm$ 2.0	77	-53.526	-5.04	1.248	11.554	1	77
SiO(g)	-24 $\pm$ 2	77	50.54 $\pm$ 1.0	77	-6.471	-1.39	0.4755	2.366	1	77
SiO <sub>2</sub> (c)	-217.7 $\pm$ 0.2	172	9.91 $\pm$ 0.05	172	31.588	14.14	-3.761	-3.703	1	77
SiO <sub>2</sub> (g)	-73 $\pm$ 8	77	54.7 $\pm$ 1.0	77	-14.368	-2.70	0.095	4.4884	1	77
Si <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>6</sub>	-236 $\pm$ 8	157	101.0 $\pm$ 3.0	157	42.15	1.03	-8.46	----	1	157
Si <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	17.1 $\pm$ 3	170	70 $\pm$ 5	**	2.247	38.20	----	-11.05 $\times 10^{-6}$	2	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>
GaAs(c)	-19.52 $\pm$ 1.0	110	15.34 $\pm$ 0.1	120	10.46	2.8	----	----	1	121
InP(c)	-14.0 $\pm$ 4.0	110	14.28 $\pm$ 0.1	120	12.27	----	-0.114	298<T<910	1	144
					5.89	6.40	----	T>910	1	144

\* Form 1:  $C_p(T/K) = a + bT + c/T^2 + d \ln T$ Form 2:  $C_p(T/K) = a + bT + cT^2 + dT^3$ 

\*\* See text

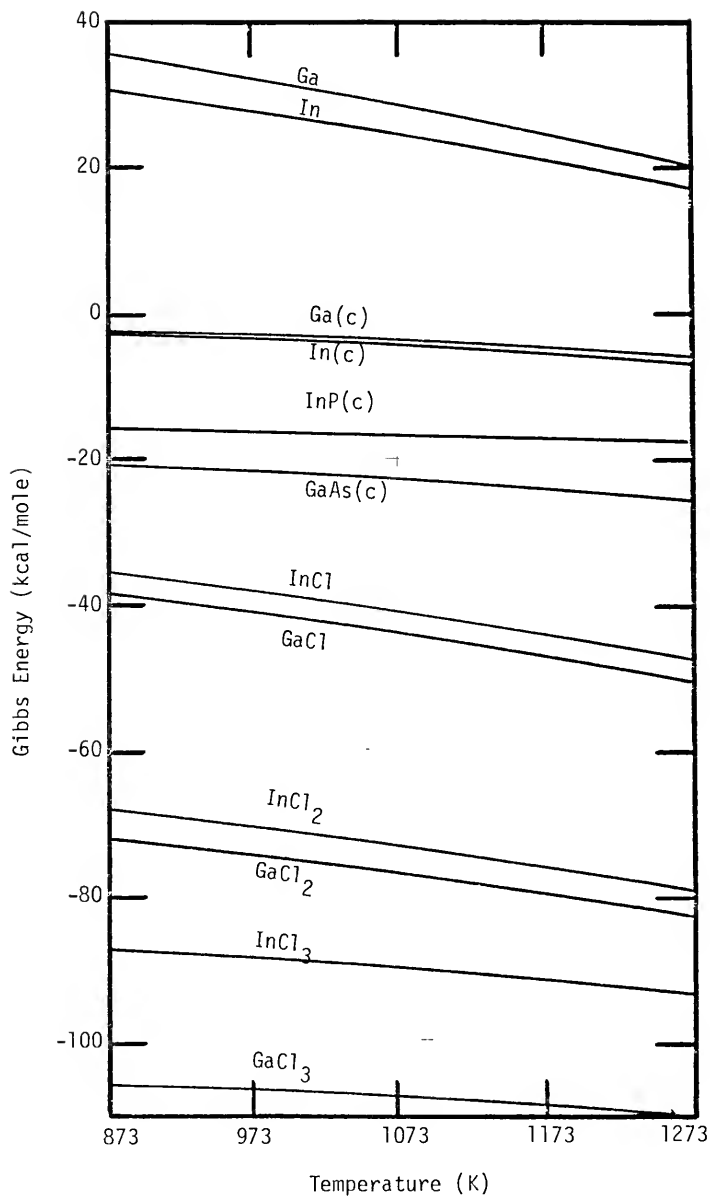


Figure 4-1  
Gibbs Energies of Formation for Gallium and Indium Species  
(at 100kPa Pressure)

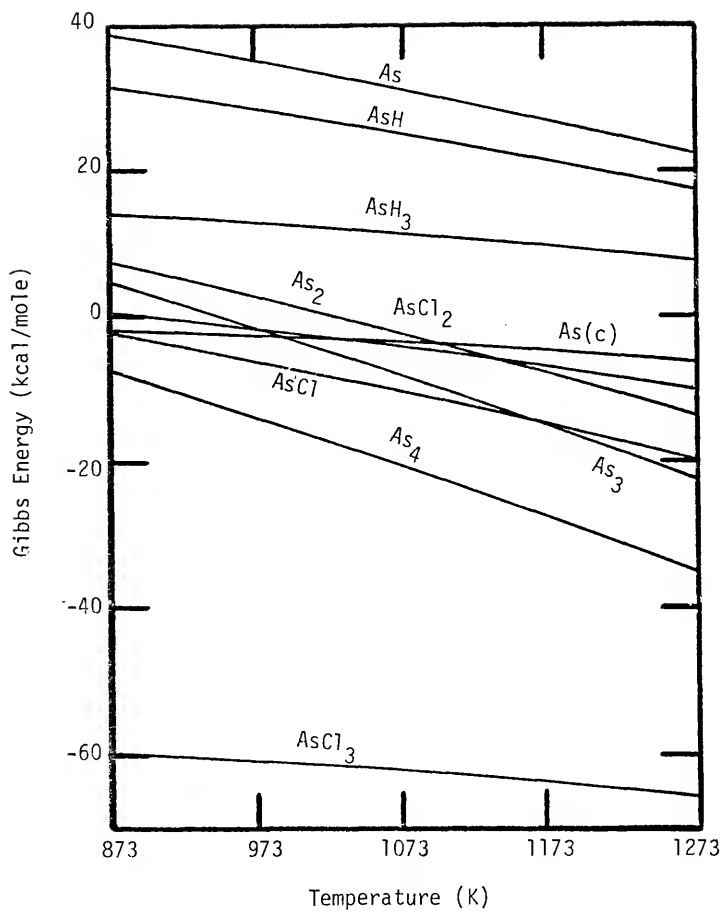


Figure 4-2  
Gibbs Energies of Formation for Arsenic Species  
(at 100kPa Pressure)

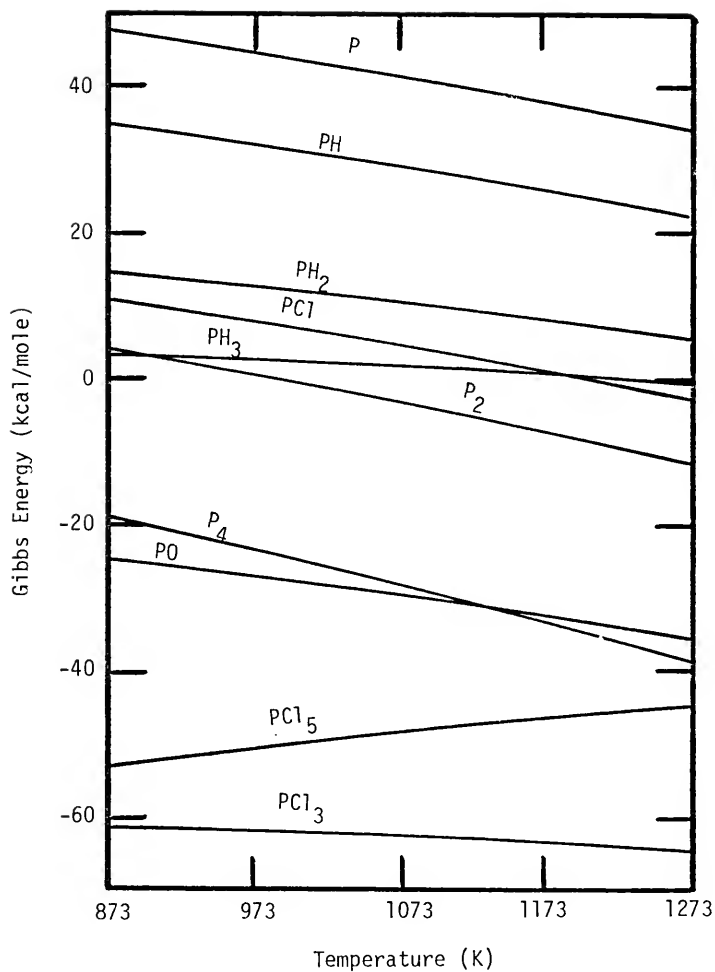


Figure 4-3  
Gibbs Energies of Formation for Phosphorus Species  
(at 100 kPa Pressure)

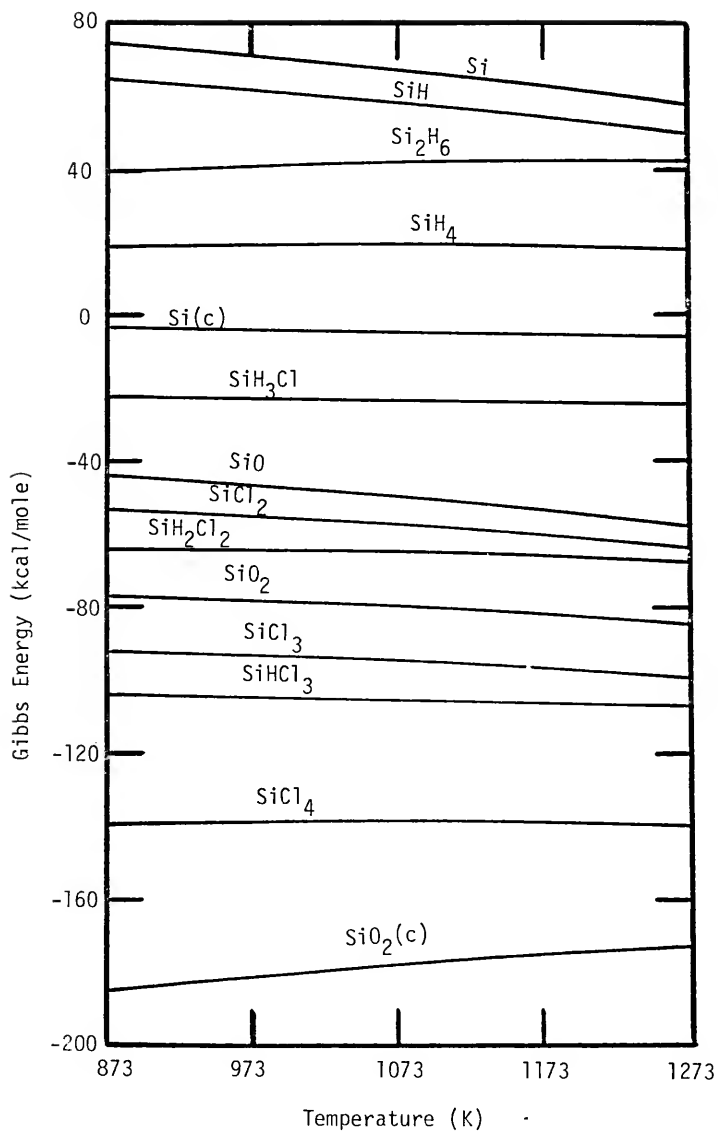


Figure 4-4  
Gibbs Energies of Formation for Silicon Species  
(at 100 kPa Pressure)

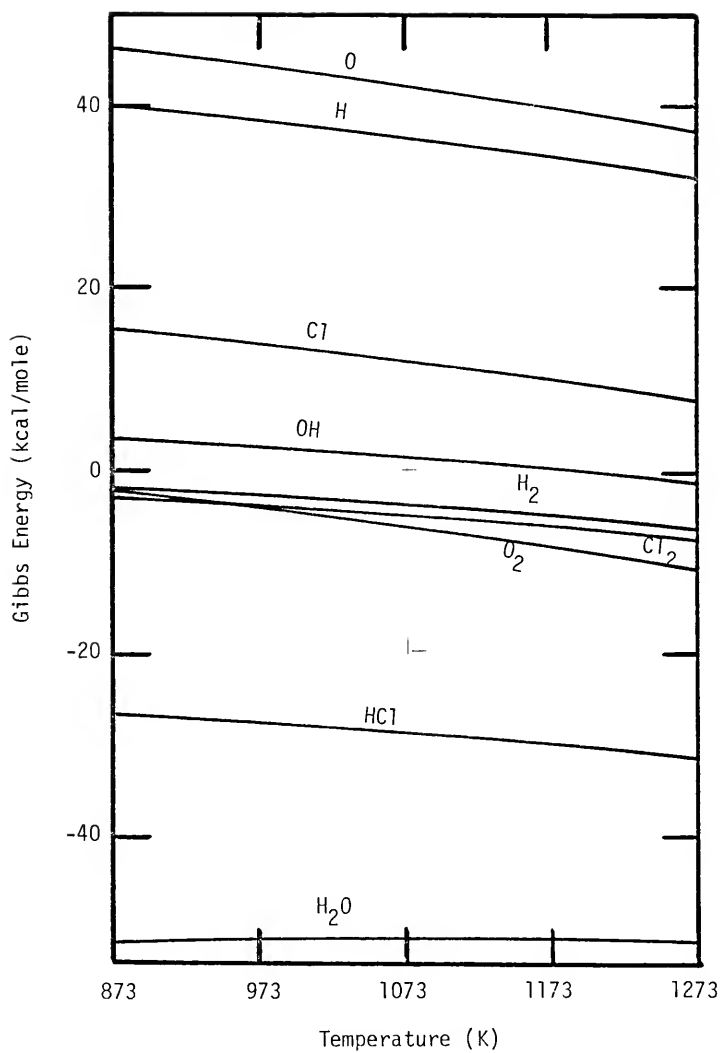


Figure 4-5  
Gibbs Energies of Formation in the H-Cl-O System  
(at 100 kPa Pressure)

CHAPTER FIVE  
EXPERIMENTAL METHOD FOR THE INVESTIGATION  
OF GROUP V TRIHYDRIDE DECOMPOSITION

Introduction

The decomposition of the trihydride of the group V elements N, P and As has, in the past, been studied using manometric methods in closed systems [50-55, 57-59] and also by infrared spectrometry in open systems [56, 60, 61, 64-66]. A major disadvantage which is encountered with measurements based on manometric techniques is that the system total pressure depends on all of the species present. It is therefore difficult to remove the influence of other reactions in the system from the observed data. Usually this difficulty is addressed by assuming that a single reaction step is rate limiting and that the remaining reaction products are at equilibrium. This technique has been employed for the decomposition of  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  by employing the overall reaction [57]



This reaction is not applicable to the  $\text{NH}_3$  system, however, since no known tetramers of N exist. For  $\text{NH}_3$  decomposition, the following overall reaction has been applied [51]



The existence of one or more slow reactions in the sequence between the disappearance of  $\text{VH}_3$  and the formation of  $\text{V}_2$  or  $\text{V}_4$  can cause the initiating step of the reaction to appear to be slower than it actually is. This results in an over estimation of the activation energy associated

with the reaction. A major advantage inherent in manometric methods is that pressure can be measured to a very high degree of accuracy.

Spectrometric investigations provide a means for measuring, directly, the rate of appearance or disappearance of individual chemical species in the system. Frequently, more than one signal can be monitored during the course of the experiment and, therefore, the opportunity for determining the entire kinetic sequence is greatly enhanced. The sensitivity of spectrometer instruments varies depending on the type of spectrometer and supporting equipment employed, but it is not unusual to find mass spectrometers which have detection limits below 1 ppm.

A major disadvantage connected with quantitative composition measurements based on spectrometric instruments is that of calibration. Most spectrometers provide an output signal which is proportional to the amount of the species which is present at the detector. The value of the proportionality constant is rarely known and generally depends on the specific chemical species and the energy (i.e. temperature) of that species. Moreover, if a sample must be removed from the system for analysis, a method of sampling must be chosen, such that the sample composition accurately represents the system from which it was removed. Also, the sampling technique must either not perturb the system significantly, or it must perturb the system in a way which is known and can be corrected for during the data reduction.

Even though there are many variables regarding the application of spectrometric techniques for the measurement of composition, these techniques are highly desirable because of the ability to follow signals representative of individual chemical species. Thus, the system employed here for the investigation of  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  decomposition



is based on a quadrupole mass spectrometer coupled to a constant volume reaction tube through a sampling orifice. This technique provided real time monitoring of the reaction gas phase composition while perturbing the reacting system in a known manner which was easily corrected for during data analysis.

#### Experimental Apparatus and Method

A schematic representation of the equipment used during the investigation of  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  thermal decomposition is shown in Figure 5-1. Due to the extremely toxic and flammable nature of the gases involved, hooded enclosures were constructed around the storage area for the gas cylinders and the reaction chamber. These enclosures, along with the vacuum pump exhaust from the gas sampling system, were vented through the laboratory exhaust hood. The exhaust gas from the reaction tube was first passed through a Draeger class B3-P filter before being vented through the laboratory exhaust hood. This was done to remove any residual  $\text{VH}_3$  and its toxic reaction products from the vented gases.

High pressure gas cylinders containing 4.3%  $\text{NH}_3$ , 10.07%  $\text{PH}_3$  and 10.03%  $\text{AsH}_3$  in  $\text{H}_2$  were connected to a common stainless steel gas line and solenoid operated valve for inlet to the reaction tube. Hydrogen was provided as an additional inlet to the reaction tube through a separate gas line and valve. This arrangement allowed the reactor to be charged with any of the available gases and allowed the gas in the reaction chamber to be diluted with  $\text{H}_2$  if desired. Purge gas consisting of  $\text{N}_2$  or He was available through the  $\text{AsH}_3$ ,  $\text{PH}_3$  or  $\text{H}_2$  purge assemblies and gas lines. A capacitance manometer was used to monitor the pressure in the reaction tube over a range of 100 Pa to  $10^5$  Pa with a precision of 0.1%.

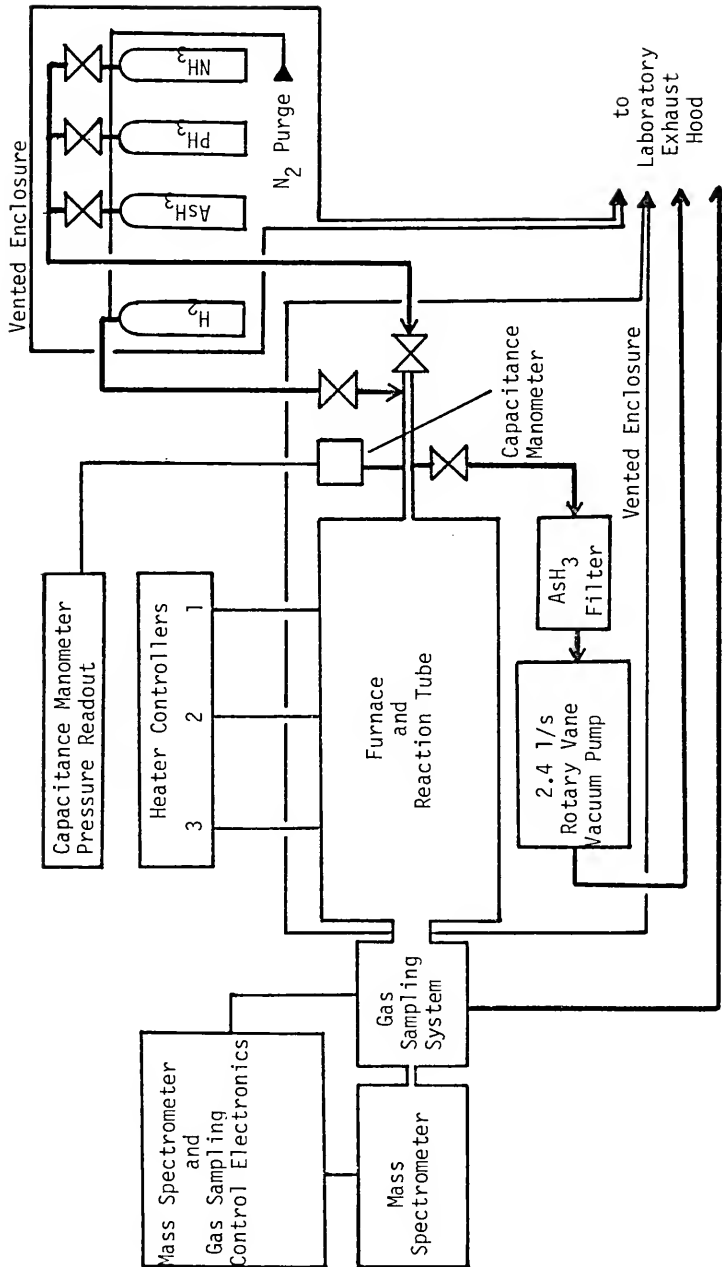


Figure 5-1  
Experimental Apparatus

The reaction tube consisted of a 54 cm long by 6 cm O.D. quartz tube placed inside of a three zone Marshall furnace (model 1169-5) and is shown in greater detail in Figure 5-2. A temperature profile which was constant to within 2 K across the length of the reaction tube was obtained by placing the tube inside of two Dynatherm liquid sodium furnace liners and by controlling each of the electrically heated furnace zones with individual Linberg Model 59344 heater controllers. The flattest temperature profiles were obtained when furnace zones 2 and 3 were operated with identical setpoints and zone 1 was operated at a setpoint 20 K below that of the other two zones.

Thermocouples were located at positions 12 cm, 25 cm, 50 cm and 62 cm into the furnace. These positions were chosen based on previous measurements which demonstrated that the temperature profile from 16 cm through 54 cm was flat to within 0.5 K. At positions less than 16 cm into the furnace, the temperature drops off due to heat losses near this end of the furnace. Positions from 54 cm to the end of the reaction tube typically showed the highest temperatures in the furnace, but this was compensated for by lowering the setpoint in zone 1. Firebrick insulation was placed at each end of the furnace in order to minimize the heat losses. The system was limited to an operating range of 673 K to 1273 K due to functional and safety constraints imposed by the furnace liners.

The inlet tube to the reactor consisted of a 40 cm long, 6 mm o.d. quartz tube which extended outside of the furnace and was mated to a stainless steel tube through a stainless steel fitting using viton o-rings as seals. Sampling of the gas in the reaction tube was accomplished by continuously drawing a sample through a small orifice

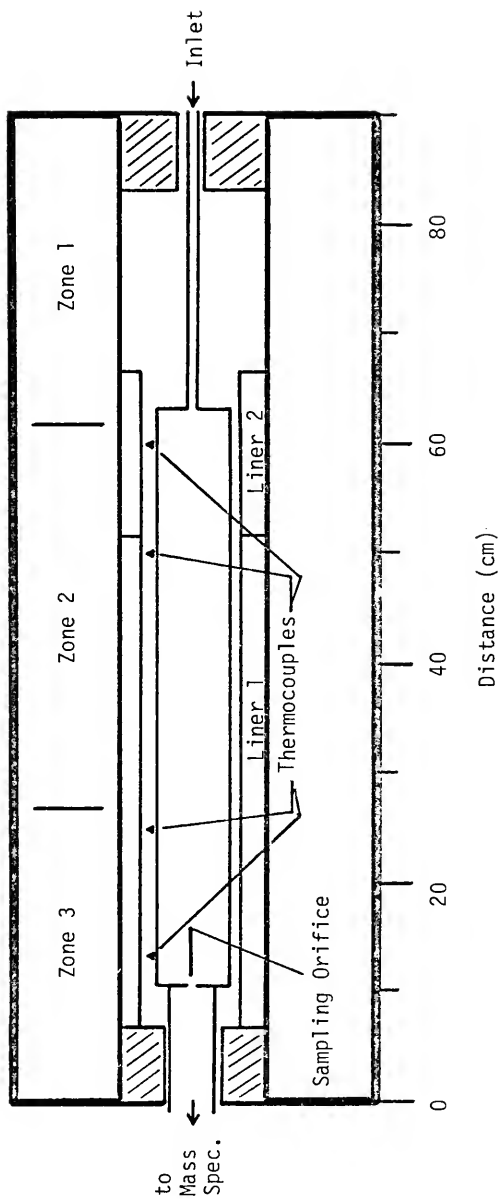


Figure 5-2  
Reaction Tube in Furnace

(nominally 0.1 mm in diameter) at the end of the reaction tube.

Further discussion of the gas sampling system and mass spectrometer is provided in Appendix B.

The use of an orifice for obtaining continuous gas samples from the reaction tube represents a significant perturbation on the reacting system and, therefore, must be considered in the data analysis. As is described in Appendix B, the mass spectrometer provides an output signal which is proportional to the partial pressure of the chemical species present in the reaction chamber. The partial pressure of each species changes due to participation in chemical reactions and the continual bleed on the reactor caused by the gas sampling system. A species balance on the reaction volume yields the following equation

$$\frac{dP_i}{dt} = r_i - \frac{RT}{V} \dot{n}_i \quad 5-3$$

where:  $P_i$  = pressure of species  $i$

$r_i$  = chemical reaction rate for species  $i$

$\dot{n}_i$  = rate of molar loss of species  $i$  through the sampling orifice

$V$  = system volume

Coulson et al. [174] have analyzed the flow of a compressible fluid through an orifice and have shown that for an isentropic process, critical flow is obtained when

$$\frac{P_d}{P_u} = \left( \frac{2}{k+1} \right)^{k/(k-1)} \quad 5-4$$

where  $P_d$  is the downstream pressure,  $P_u$  is the upstream pressure and  $k$  is the ratio of the heat capacity at constant pressure to the heat capacity at constant volume. The heat capacity ratio ranges from 1.13

( $\text{PH}_3$ ) to 1.66 (He) for the gases used in these experiments. Therefore, keeping the ratio of the reaction tube pressure to the first vacuum stage pressure below 0.49 will assure that all of the gases flowing through the sample orifice are at critical flow. During the experiments, the partial pressure of any measurable gas in the reaction chamber was greater than 500 Pa. As is described in Appendix B, the operating pressure of the first vacuum stage was between 10 and 50 Pa. Thus, the requirement for critical flow was always met.

Applying the results of Coulson et al. [174] to equation 5-3 yields the following relationship

$$\frac{dP_i}{dt} = r_i - \frac{A_e K_e}{V} \left(\frac{RT}{M_i}\right)^{1/2} P_i \quad 5-5$$

where  $A_e = C_D A_0$

$C_D$  = orifice discharge coefficient

$A_0$  = orifice diameter

$M_i$  = molecular weight of species  $i$

and

$$K_e = \left[ k \left( \frac{2}{k+1} \right)^{(k+1)/(k-1)} \right]^{1/2} \quad 5-6$$

The variable  $A_e$ , which represents the product of the orifice diameter and discharge coefficient, is unknown since a sufficiently accurate value for the orifice diameter is not known and the discharge coefficient is a function of the orifice Reynolds number. A relationship between  $A_e$ , gas molecular weight and system temperature was therefore determined experimentally using  $\text{H}_2$ , He,  $\text{N}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$ .

It has long been recognized that catalytic surfaces become less active the longer they are in use, but usually exhibit a relatively

constant period of activity following an initial period of deactivation. The quartz reactor surface was pretreated prior to the experiments by pressurizing the tube to 130000 Pa with hydrogen at a temperature of 1073 K for 48 hours. The  $\text{NH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  decomposition experiments were repeated several times (days apart) in order to look for changes in the catalytic activity. No changes in activity were observed. Between experiments, the reaction tube was either maintained under vacuum or a helium pressure of approximately  $10^5$  Pa.

The procedure employed for the collection of rate data was the same for each group V trihydride. Each trihydride was investigated over a full range of temperatures before the next was admitted to the system. Ammonia was studied first followed by phosphine and finally arsine.

The desire to obtain a temperature profile which was as flat as possible along the length of the reaction tube required the suppression of all of the heat losses in the system. Thus, increasing the temperature of the reactor could be accomplished quickly ( $\sim 200$  K/hr) while decreasing the reactor temperature was a slow process. Therefore, most of the data taken for each trihydride was acquired in increasing order of temperature. This procedure was not strictly adhered to however, since eventually, the next higher temperature investigated resulted in reaction rates too fast to be followed with the current mass spectrometer configuration. It was therefore not unusual to allow the reactor to cool so that rate data at intermediate temperatures could be gathered. This occurred most frequently for  $\text{AsH}_3$  and occasionally for  $\text{PH}_3$ .

The laboratory did not have the capability for automated control of the mass spectrometer. Each scan of mass to charge ratio, therefore, was initiated manually. The fastest rate at which data could be

reliably scanned and averaged by the mass spectrometer and chart recorder was one scan every 10 seconds. This made it difficult to follow reactions with half lives less than 30 seconds since relatively few data points could be collected before the species signal was comparable to the background signal or instrument noise.

The decomposition of  $\text{NH}_3$  was monitored by following the  $\text{NH}_2^+$  peak at  $m/e = 16$ . This peak was followed rather than  $\text{NH}_3^+$  since the desorption of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  off the walls of the second vacuum stage in the mass spectrometer caused a large  $\text{OH}^+$  background peak to be present at  $m/e = 17$ .

The decomposition of  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  were followed by observing the entire fragment ion pattern  $\text{V}^+$ ,  $\text{VH}^+$ ,  $\text{VH}_2^+$  and  $\text{VH}_3^+$  at  $m/e = 31, 32, 33$  and  $34$  for  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $m/e = 75, 76, 77$  and  $78$  for  $\text{AsH}_3$ . No significant background was observed at these mass to charge ratios. The levels of confidence for the  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  results are, therefore, much higher than that for  $\text{NH}_3$ .

The procedure employed for these experiments was to first evacuate the reaction tube and then bring the reactor to the desired temperature. The reactor was then charged with the desired trihydride by opening the appropriate solenoid operated valves and monitoring the system pressure by means of the capacitance manometer. The system was charged to a pressure of  $1.3 \times 10^5 \pm 10^3$  Pa for the  $\text{NH}_3$  experiments and  $9.2 \times 10^4 \pm 10^3$  Pa for the  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  experiments. The amount of time required to charge the reactor was between 3 and 5 seconds. The first mass spectrometer scan was begun 15 seconds after the valves were closed. This delay was primarily due to the restrictions imposed by manual operation of the system (time required to close valves, start the chart recorder and initiate the mass spectrometer scan), but also provided sufficient time for thermal equilibrium to be established.



The amount of time required for the radial temperature profile in the reaction tube to be flat within 0.1 K may be estimated from the following analysis. Neglecting natural convection and heat losses from the ends of the reaction tube, the radial temperature profile as a function of time is found from the solution of

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{d^2T}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dT}{dr} \quad 5-7$$

where  $\alpha$  is the thermal diffusivity of the gas in the reaction tube. Carslaw and Jaeger [175] have solved equation 5-7 subject to the boundary condition of zero initial temperature, constant wall temperature and radial symmetry. The result is

$$T = T_w \left( 1 - \frac{2}{R} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{J_0(a_n r)}{a_n J_1(a_n R)} e^{-\alpha a_n^2 t} \right) \quad 5-8$$

In this equation,  $T_w$  is the reactor wall temperature,  $R$  is the reactor tube radius and the eigenvalues,  $a_n$ , are the roots of the equation

$$J_0(a_n R) = 0 \quad 5-9$$

Since the reaction tube contained at least 90%  $H_2$  at all times, the thermal diffusivity of  $H_2$  was used to evaluate equation 5-8. A further assumption inherent in equation 5-8 is that  $\alpha$  is invariant with respect to temperature. This is not true for  $H_2$  as  $\alpha$  goes as approximately  $T^2$  [77]. However, a worse case calculation can be performed by evaluating  $\alpha$  at the initial temperature (300 K) of the gas. The average and centerline temperatures in the reaction tube are shown in Figure 5-3. Five eigenvalues were used in the evaluation of equation 5-8 to achieve this result. The reactor centerline temperature was found to be within 0.01% of the wall temperature (e.g. 0.1 K at  $T_w = 1000$  K) for times greater than 7 seconds. Evaluating  $\alpha$  at higher temperatures decreased

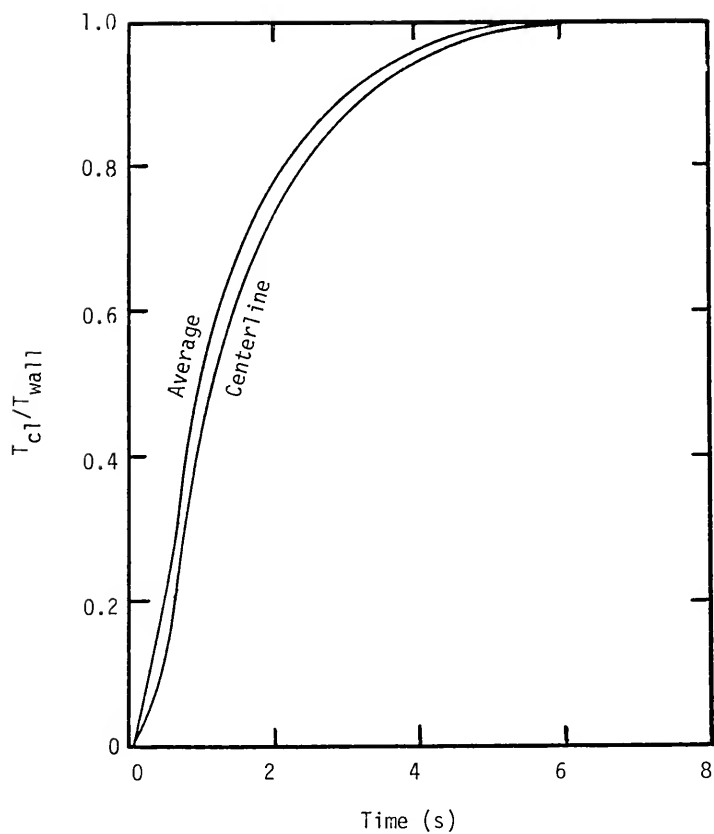


Figure 5-3  
Reaction Tube Temperature During Heating

this time sharply (e.g. evaluating  $\alpha$  at 1000 K required only 1.9 s to achieve the same results). The influence exerted on the thermal diffusivity by the presence of  $\text{VH}_3$  in the system is on the order of 10% to 15%. This is considered insignificant relative to the choice of an appropriate temperature for evaluating  $\alpha$ . Thus, based on the results depicted in Figure 5-3, it is concluded that the 15 s delay, between charging the reactor and the initiation of data collection, was sufficient to allow the gas in the tube to reach thermal equilibrium.

Mass spectrometer scans were made every 10, 30, 60 or 120 seconds, depending on the reaction rate, and data was taken either for 1200 seconds or until the signal was too small to be reliably measured. Background signal measurements were made before and after the decomposition data were acquired at each temperature in order to determine whether or not the  $\text{VH}_3$  background signals were increasing with system exposure to the  $\text{VH}_3$  species. A slight increase in  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  background was noticed over the course of the experiments, but the change at any one data gathering session was insignificant. Changes in the  $\text{NH}_3$  background could not be observed due to the large  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  background signals present.

## CHAPTER SIX RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Chemical Equilibrium Investigation

#### Introduction

The product of the equilibrium calculations was the composition of the vapor phase in the presence of excess condensed phases. The composition was investigated as a function of temperature, pressure and inlet gas composition. The usual procedure was to vary one of the operating conditions while holding the remaining ones at their base values. The graphical representation of these results illustrates the equilibrium vapor mole fraction of each of the species versus the parameter varied. Since the primary objective of this study was to examine unintentional Si incorporation levels, mole fractions are shown typically down to a level of  $10^{-10}$  (0.1 ppb). The Si species were always found to be below  $10^{-5}$  mole fraction. Therefore, only the lower five orders of magnitude were shown in many cases unless the upper range was necessary to understand the results. A full parametric analysis was performed and over 160 plots were generated. In many cases, the results were similar to analogous system, thus, this chapter includes only those graphs necessary for understanding the principal phenomena predicted. In interpreting these plots, it should be realized that an excess specie serves to hold the activity of that specie at a constant value. For example, with solid  $\text{SiO}_2$  present, the activity of  $\text{SiO}_2$  is fixed at unity and therefore the product of the Si

and  $O_2$  partial pressures is also fixed. Thus, changes in operating parameters that alter the  $O_2$  fugacity will alter the Si activity by the same degree in an inverse fashion.

#### The GaAs Chloride System

The effect of temperature on the species present in the GaAs chloride system source zone (100 kPa pressure, inlet composition: 1%  $AsCl_3$  in  $H_2$ ) is shown in Figures 6-1 through 6-4. Figures 6-1 and 6-2 apply to the system which used a liquid group III source,  $Ga_xAs_{1-x}$  and Figures 6-3 and 6-4 represent the results for the system which employed GaAs(c) as the group III source material. At low temperatures,  $GaCl_2$  and  $GaCl_3$  became relatively important gallium vapor species along with GaCl in the solid source system. In the liquid source system, GaCl is the dominant gallium species over the entire temperature range examined ( $873 < T < 1173$  K). In both systems,  $As_4$  was the dominant arsenic species at low temperature while  $As_2$  became important at high temperatures. In contrast to previous studies [20, 21], the trimer,  $As_3$ , mole fraction was not negligible. In general, comparison of the silicon activity for the two source zones revealed that the silicon activity associated with the GaAs(c) source material was much lower than that which resulted when a liquid source material was employed. The predominant silicon species in the vapor phase of the system which used a solid source were the higher silicon chlorides in contrast to the hydrogen rich silicon species found in the system which used a liquid source. An additional interesting feature is that the total mole fraction of silicon compounds in the vapor for the system which employed a solid source was greater than that for the system which employed a liquid source. At first glance, this fact seems contradictory to the lower observed silicon activity.

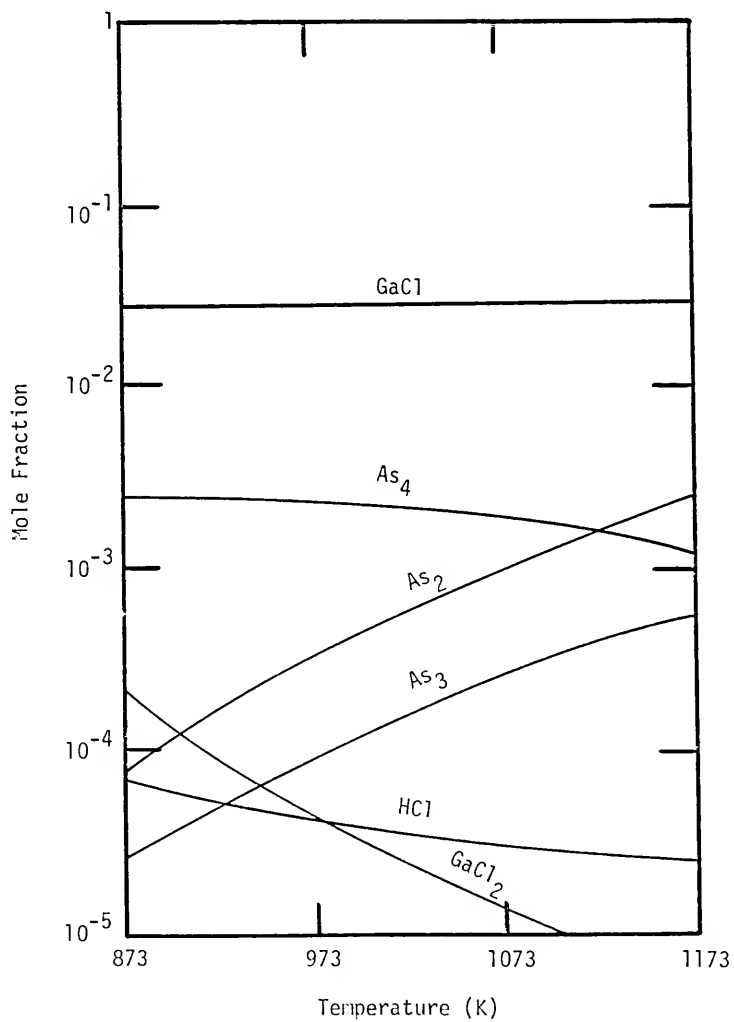


Figure 6-1  
Effect of Temperature in the GaAs Chloride System Source Zone  
(Liquid Source)

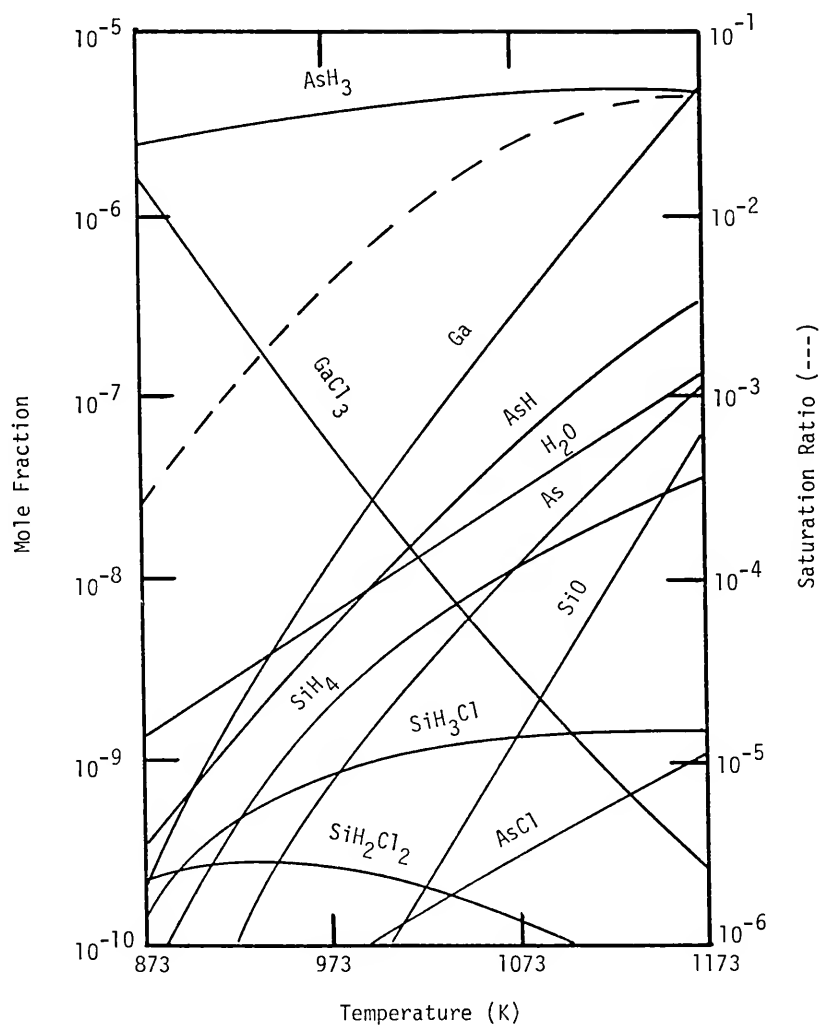


Figure 6-2  
Effect of Temperature in the GaAs Chloride System Source Zone  
(Liquid Source)

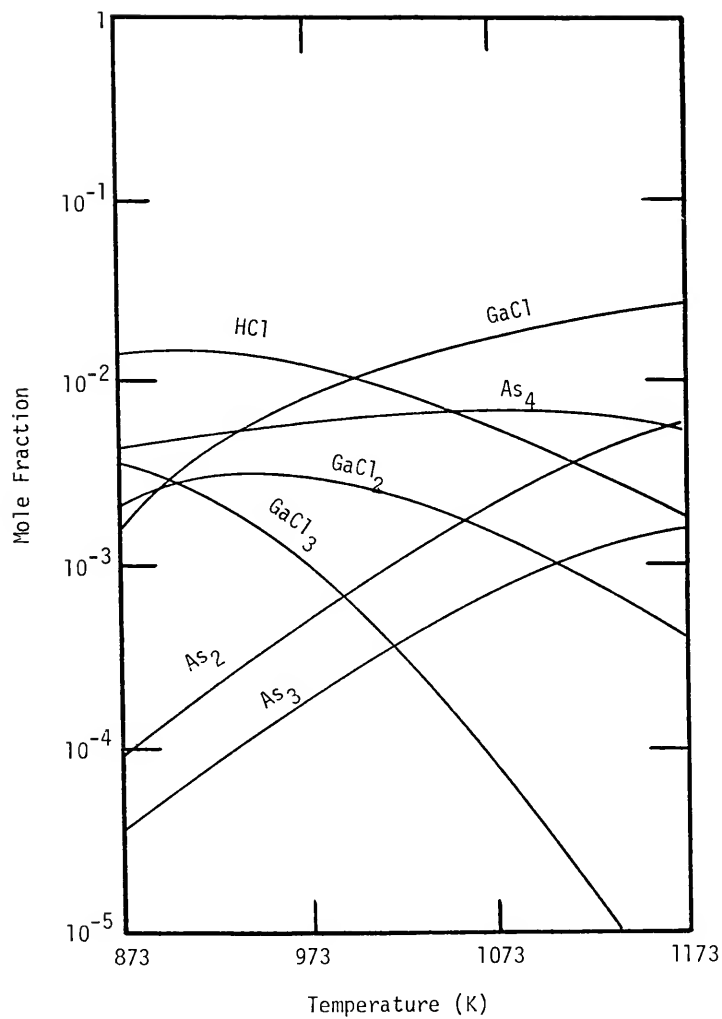


Figure 6-3  
Effect of Temperature in the GaAs Chloride System Source Zone  
(Solid Source)



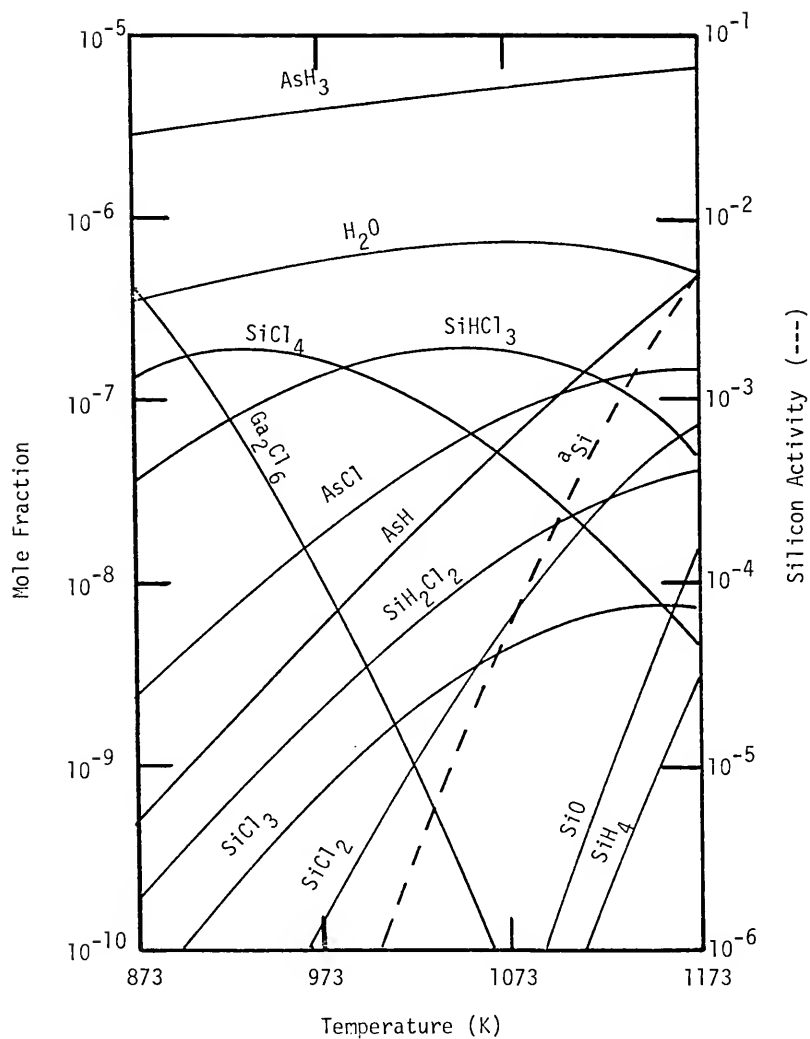
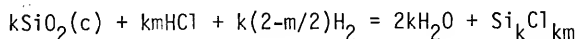
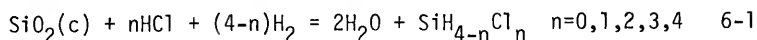


Figure 6-4  
Effect of Temperature in the GaAs Chloride System Source Zone  
(Solid Source)

The following reaction equations may be written to describe the formation of silicon chlorides, chlorosilanes and silane resulting from reactions with the quartz reactor wall.



$$k=1,2 \quad m=0,1,2,3 \quad 6-2$$

Reactions 6-1 and 6-2 represent a set of independent formation reactions which describe the interplay between the dominant vapor phase silicon species present in the system. Assuming ideal gas behavior, the equilibrium constants for these reactions are as follows:

$$K_{1,n} = \frac{y_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^2 y_{\text{SiH}_{4-n}\text{Cl}_n}}{y_{\text{H}_2}^{4-n} y_{\text{HCl}}^n P_T} \quad 6-3$$

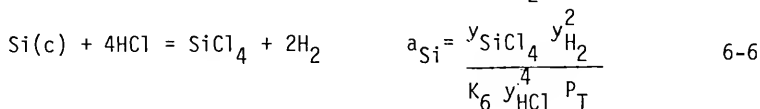
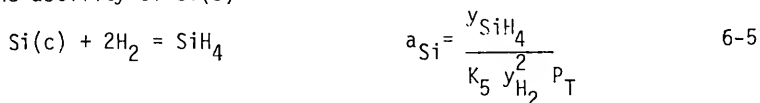
and

$$K_{2,k,m} = \frac{y_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{2k} y_{\text{Si}_k\text{Cl}_{km}} P_T^{1-km/2}}{y_{\text{H}_2}^{k(2-m/2)} y_{\text{HCl}}^{km}} \quad 6-4$$

where  $y_i$  = vapor phase mole fraction of species  $i$

$P_T$  = system total pressure ratio (total pressure/reference state pressure)

The activity of silicon residing in a condensed phase which is at equilibrium with the vapor phase may be calculated from any reaction using a vapor Si species reactant and solid Si product. For example, consider the following reactions and subsequent equilibrium expressions for the activity of Si(c)



Here  $K_i$  is the equilibrium constant for reaction ( $i=5,6$ ). Other equivalent relations may be written in order to calculate the condensed phase silicon activity but the models suggested in equations 6-5 and 6-6 serve as convenient points of focus since either  $\text{SiH}_4$  or  $\text{SiCl}_4$  is usually a significant silicon vapor species in the systems studied. In particular, for those systems using  $\text{H}_2$  as the carrier gas, the mole fraction of  $\text{H}_2$  is nearly constant with a value close to unity. Therefore,  $a_{\text{Si}}$  will track the  $\text{SiH}_4$  mole fraction and is inversely proportional to the system pressure. Both models of course yield identical values for the silicon activity when applied to the same situation. The activity of Si presented in these plots can be viewed as the value found in a solid phase in equilibrium with a vapor having the composition shown. In order to translate this into a solubility, the nature of the solid phase must be considered (i.e. the activity coefficient must be known). Due to the low degree of doping encountered in these systems, (e.g. typically  $< 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , which is  $< 100 \text{ ppb}$ ), the activity coefficient can be represented by Henry's constant, which is invariant with respect to composition. Therefore, an increase in Si activity corresponds to an increase in solubility. Thus, the models provided by equations 6-5 and 6-6 may be used to predict the direction of change in the silicon concentration based on the knowledge of the vapor phase equilibrium composition.

The lower silicon activity associated with the solid GaAs source can therefore be viewed as due to a suppressed  $\text{SiH}_4$  concentration when compared to the liquid source (equation 6-5). In the source zone, which employed solid GaAs, the presence of primarily higher chlorides and chlorosilanes at the lower source zone temperatures was a result

of less gallium being present in the vapor phase than was present when a liquid source was employed. Since Ga was in excess in both the liquid and solid source systems, the activity of Ga was constrained with the liquid source exhibiting a higher Ga activity. Thus, sufficient HCl was available due to the decomposition of  $\text{AsCl}_3$  and the absence of enough Ga to consume it to enhance reactions 6-1 and 6-2 for large  $k$  and  $m$  values. Figure 6-5, which shows the chloride system pre-source zone (1%  $\text{AsCl}_3$  in  $\text{H}_2$ , no group III source material present), further supports this analysis. The absence of group III chlorides caused the total amount of silicon in the vapor to increase above the level observed in the solid source system while the condensed phase silicon activity decreased even further.

Table 6-1 lists the enthalpy of formation at 298 K and the Gibbs energy of reaction at 973 K for some of the vapor species described by reactions 6-1 and 6-2. The large negative enthalpies of formation are indicative of strong interatomic bonds and therefore stable species. Since equilibrium represents the state having the lowest value for the Gibbs energy of the system, species with a lower Gibbs energy of reaction are favored. Therefore, providing sufficient chlorine to react with the silicon species results in a higher total silicon concentration in the vapor phase but, due to the stability of these species, a lower activity of solid silicon in the condensed phase. The relative stability of silicon halides, when compared to silicon hydrides was also recognized by Rai-Choudhury [12].

The outlet equilibrium compositions of the source zones using solid or liquid source materials at 973 K were used as input to the mixing zone and the effect of mixing zone temperature was investigated.

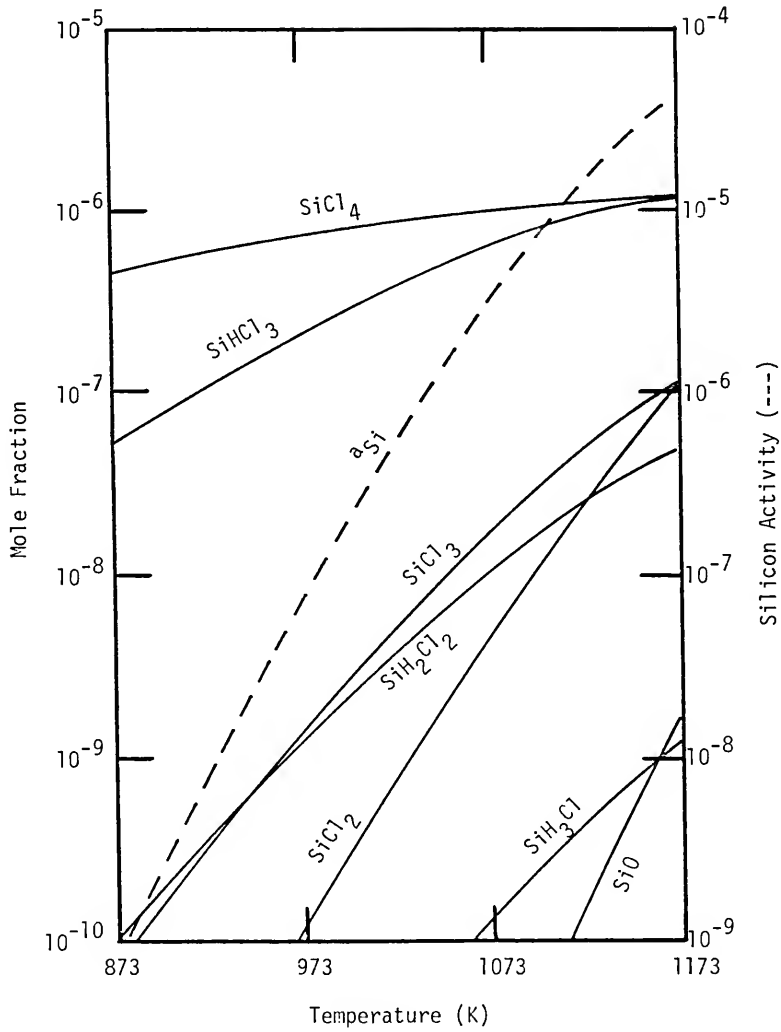


Figure 6-5  
Effect of Temperature in the GaAs Chloride System Presource Zone

Table 6-1  
Enthalpies of Formation and Gibbs Energies of Reaction  
for Some Silicon Vapor Species

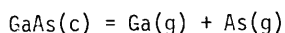
Vapor Species	$H_f^{298K*}$ (kcal/mole)	$\Delta G_f^{298K*}$ (kcal/mole)
$SiCl_4$	-158.4	51.4
$SiHCl_3$	-119.5	60.5
$SiCl_3$	-93.3	69.8
$SiH_2Cl_2$	-75.5	76.9
$SiCl_2$	-40.3	81.8
$SiH_3Cl$	-32.7	94.0
$SiH_4$	8.2	111.5
$SiCl$	47.4	129.8
$Si_2Cl_6$	-236.0	139.5

\*Reference state:  $Si(c)$ ,  $Cl_2(v)$ ,  $H_2(v)$  at 298 K and 100 kPa

The system using a liquid source material displayed behavior which was nearly identical to the source zone behavior. This supports Weiner's model [30] which suggested using the outlet composition of the source zone as the inlet composition to the deposition zone. This model is only applicable, of course, if the source and mixing zones are operated at the same temperature. Justification for isothermal operation of the source and mixing zones comes from noting that the condensed phase silicon activity increases with temperature. Therefore, it is desirable to operate the mixing zone at the source zone temperature in order to minimize the silicon activity and at the same time prevent deposition of GaAs in this zone.

The behavior of the mixing zone, when fed from a source zone using solid GaAs as the source material, differed from that of the source zone alone in that the mole fractions of all of the chlorinated vapor phase silicon species increased with temperature, as did the condensed phase silicon activity. Although the silicon activity in the mixing zone increased more slowly with temperature than it did in the source zone, the results of this analysis suggests operating the mixing zone at a temperature equal to or less than that of the source zone, in order to attain the lowest possible silicon activity.

The effect of temperature on the deposition zone, which was fed from source and mixing zones using temperatures of 973 K, pressures of 100 kPa, a liquid source material and 1% AsCl<sub>3</sub> in H<sub>2</sub> as inlet into the reactor, has shown GaCl and As<sub>4</sub> to be the dominant group III and V species. A measure of the supersaturation of the vapor was defined based on the reaction



Using the equilibrium relationship, the saturation ratio,  $R_{\text{Sat}}$ , is defined as

$$R_{\text{Sat}} = \frac{P_{\text{Ga}} P_{\text{As}}}{K_{\text{Sat}}} \quad 6-8$$

where  $K_{\text{Sat}} = \exp(-\Delta G_{\text{rxn}}^{\circ}/RT)$  6-9

This saturation ratio was observed to decrease from  $4 \times 10^5$  at 773 K to 700 at 973 K, which shows that the vapor phase was highly supersaturated. When  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  was not included in the deposition zone, the condensed phase silicon activity changed only slightly from  $9 \times 10^{-3}$  at 773 K to  $6 \times 10^{-3}$  at 973 K. Including  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  in the deposition zone calculation resulted in the condensed phase silicon activity becoming a strong function of temperature (due to reversal of reactions 6-1 and 6-2) with the activity value at 973 K remaining unchanged and the 773 K value falling to  $9 \times 10^{-5}$ .

When solid GaAs was used as the group III source material, the following results were obtained for the deposition zone. The saturation ratio fell from a value of 200 at 773 K to the expected value of 1 at 973 K, thus revealing the system to be much less supersaturated than the liquid source material counterpart. This lower degree of supersaturation was due to much less GaCl being present in the vapor. The dominant group V specie was  $\text{As}_4$ , but GaCl,  $\text{GaCl}_2$  and  $\text{GaCl}_3$  were all important contributors to the group III vapor species. The condensed phase silicon activity was found to increase with temperature from  $9 \times 10^{-8}$  at 773 K to  $7 \times 10^{-7}$  at 973 K for the case where  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  was not included in the deposition zone. When  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  was included, the silicon activity at 773 K fell to  $2 \times 10^{-9}$ .



The effect of pressure was investigated over the range of 1 to 1000 kPa (temperature 973 K, inlet composition: 1%  $\text{AsCl}_3$  in  $\text{H}_2$ ) for both the solid and liquid group III source materials. Over the entire range studied GaCl was the dominant group III vapor specie in the system using a liquid source material, while for the system using solid GaAs as the source material, GaCl became the dominant group III specie at pressures below 100 kPa, but competed with  $\text{GaCl}_2$  and  $\text{GaCl}_3$  at the higher pressures. The dominant group V vapor specie was  $\text{As}_4$  at pressures above 10 kPa with  $\text{As}_2$  becoming important below this pressure, in agreement with Gentner et al. [21], in both the liquid and solid source systems.

Figures 6-6 and 6-7 show the lower five orders of magnitude in mole fraction and the condensed phase silicon activities in the liquid and solid material source zones. The silicon activity in the system, which used a liquid source material, reached a maximum at a pressure of 4 kPa and then decreased with increasing pressure. This behavior has not previously been reported in the literature presumably due to the constrained nature of previous equilibrium calculations. Referring to equation 6-5 reveals that the maximum in the silicon activity was due to the  $\text{SiH}_4$  mole fraction rising faster than  $P_T$  in the 1 to 10 kPa range. Applying equation 6-3 to the specie  $\text{SiH}_4$  ( $n=0$ ) and referring to Figure 6-6 shows that the  $\text{SiH}_4$  mole fraction dependence on pressure deviates from linear behavior due to the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  mole fraction changes in this range ( $y_{\text{H}_2} \approx 1$ ). The change in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  mole fraction was due to changes in the total amount of  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  which reacted with the vapor. Reaction 6-1 was important in this system and, as the pressure increased, caused more  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  to react which generated more  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

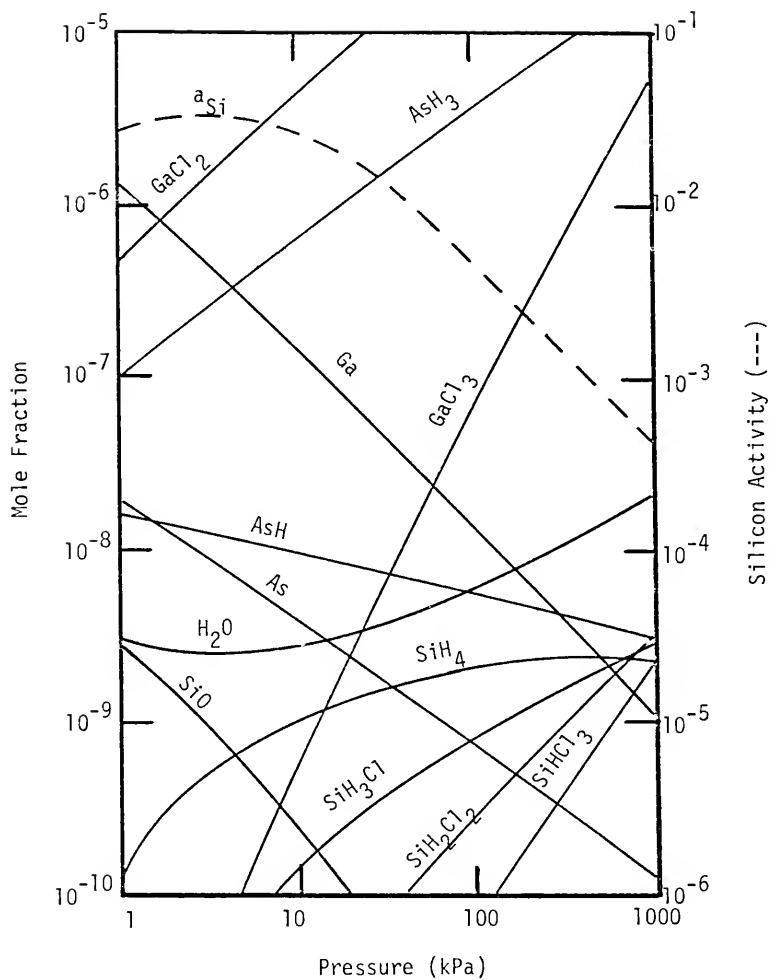


Figure 6-6  
Effect of Pressure on the GaAs Chloride System Source Zone  
(Liquid Source)

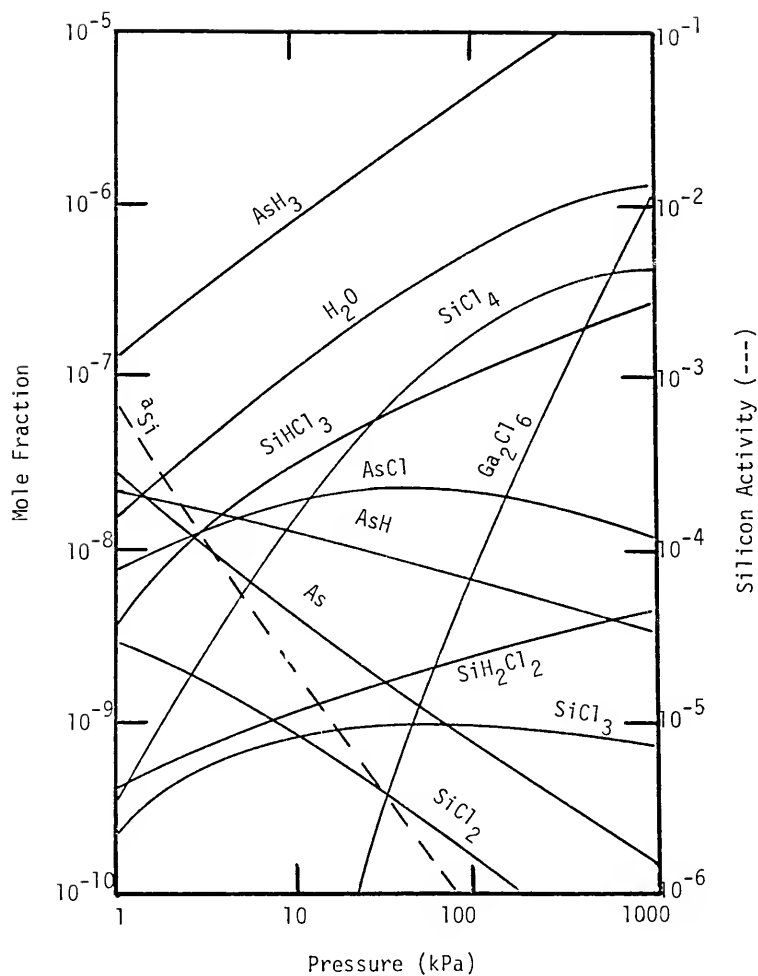


Figure 6-7  
Effect of Pressure on the GaAs Chloride System Source Zone  
(Solid Source)

The dominant silicon vapor species present at the low end of the pressure range was SiO which was formed via the reaction



with the corresponding equilibrium relationship

$$K_3 = y_{\text{SiO}}^2 y_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} P_T^2 / y_{\text{H}_2} \quad 6-11$$

Thus, the observed minimum in the H<sub>2</sub>O mole fraction was due to the interaction between the decreasing mole fraction of SiO with the increasing system pressure from reaction 6-7 along with H<sub>2</sub>O generation from reaction 6-1. Reaction 6-2 was not important in this situation.

The source zone which used solid GaAs as the group III source material showed a strictly decreasing condensed phase silicon activity with increasing system pressure and is best described via reactions 6-1 and 6-2 in conjunction with the silicon activity model provided by equation 6-6. The decrease in silicon activity was due to the 3 order of magnitude increase in SiCl<sub>4</sub> mole fraction being offset by an order of magnitude increase in HCl mole fraction ( $a_{\text{Si}} \propto y_{\text{HCl}}^{-4}$ ) and the  $P_T^{-1}$  dependence of the silicon activity. Once again, the activity of silicon in the system using solid GaAs as a source material was much less than the activity resulting from using liquid Ga<sub>x</sub>As<sub>1-x</sub> as the group III source material.

The mixing and deposition zones were studied using only the liquid group III source material in the source zone. The mixing zone results were again essentially the same as those of the source zone (operated at the same temperature) and therefore do not require further discussion.

The deposition zone, shown in Figures 6-8 and 6-9, exhibited a saturation ratio of approximately  $2 \times 10^3$  at a pressure of 1 kPa rising

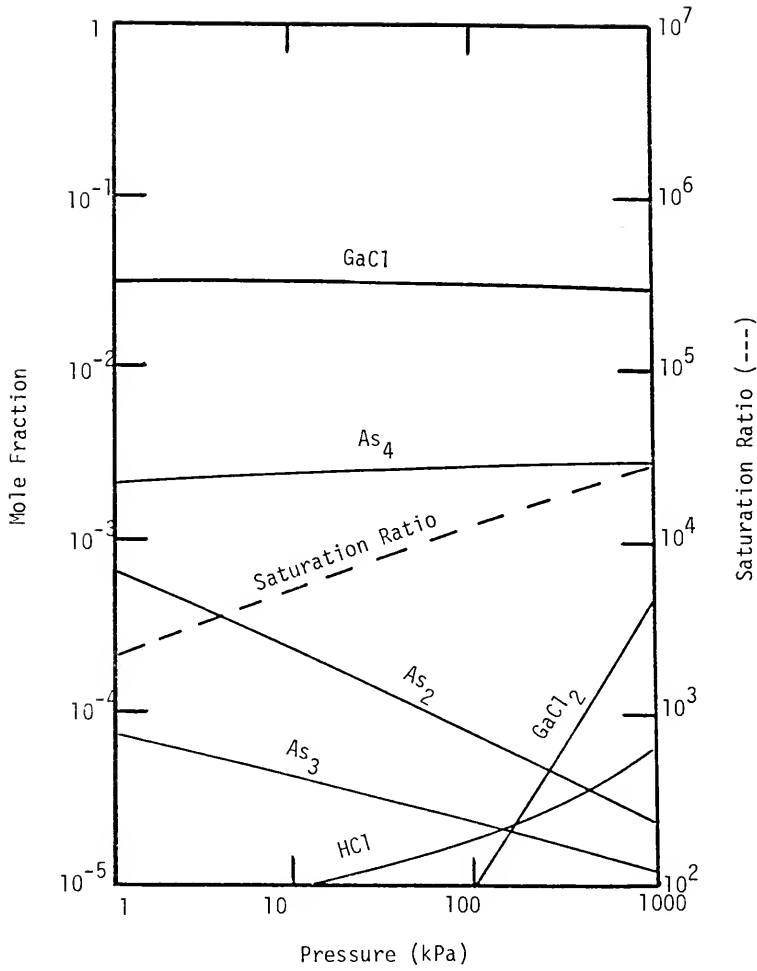


Figure 6-8  
Effect of Pressure on the GaAs Chloride System Deposition Zone

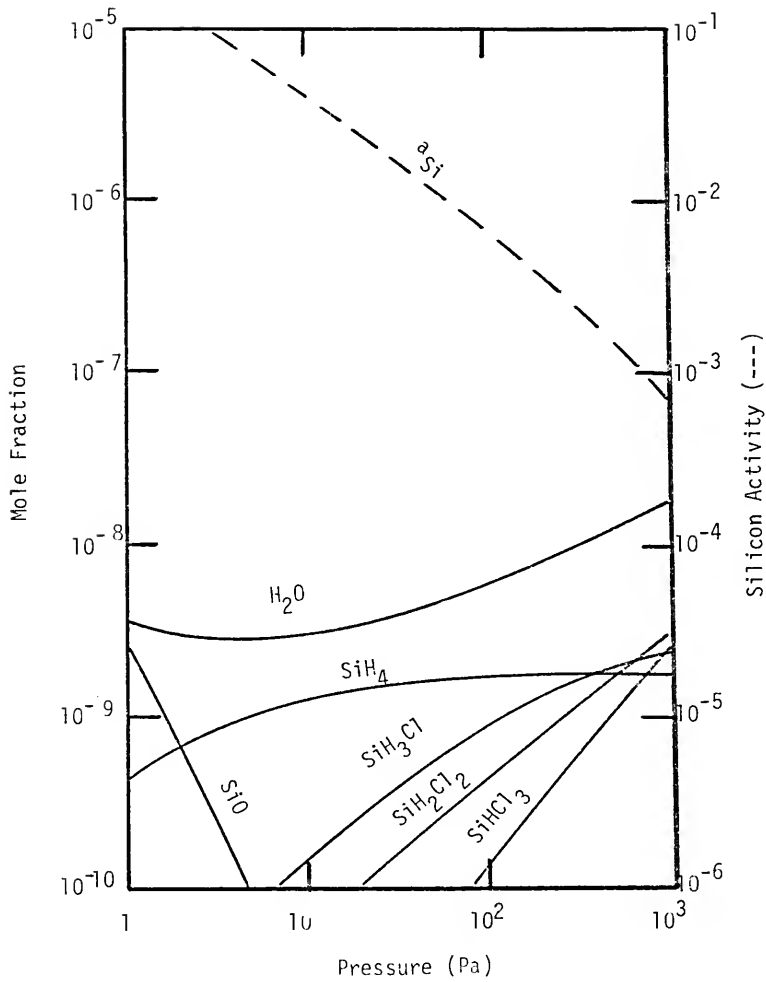


Figure 6-9  
Effect of Pressure on the GaAs Chloride System Deposition Zone

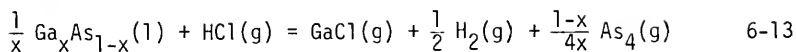
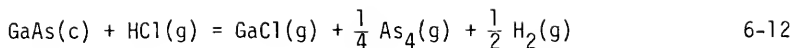
to approximately  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  at 1000 kPa. Thus, the deposition zone was supersaturated over the entire pressure range investigated.

The maximum value of the condensed phase silicon activity observed for the source and mixing zones was not prevalent in the deposition zone since  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  was not included in the deposition zone model. Therefore, the silicon activity decreased with increasing pressure in accord with equation 6-5.

The mole fraction of  $\text{AsCl}_3$  present in the feed stream was varied from 0.1% to 10% in order to determine its effect on the condensed phase silicon activity. For the source zone utilizing a liquid group III source material most of the chlorine atoms provided by the decomposition of  $\text{AsCl}_3$  were used to generate  $\text{GaCl}$ . Therefore, the condensed phase silicon activity was not appreciably affected until large concentrations of  $\text{AsCl}_3$  were reached. The silicon activity was found to decrease from  $7 \times 10^{-3}$  at 0.1%  $\text{AsCl}_3$  to  $6 \times 10^{-3}$  at 1%  $\text{AsCl}_3$  and finally to  $7 \times 10^{-4}$  at 10%  $\text{AsCl}_3$ . These results agree qualitatively with previous calculations [11, 12] and observations [8, 9, 10, 13].

A very marked effect on the silicon activity was observed as the  $\text{AsCl}_3$  inlet concentration was varied in the system using solid GaAs as the group III source material. Since less  $\text{GaCl}$  was generated in this system when compared to the system using a liquid group III source, more  $\text{HCl}$  was available from the decomposition of  $\text{AsCl}_3$  to react with the silicon vapor species. Thus, the condensed phase silicon activity was found to decrease uniformly from  $9 \times 10^{-5}$  at 0.1%  $\text{AsCl}_3$  to  $1.5 \times 10^{-8}$  at 10%  $\text{AsCl}_3$  inlet concentration.

The reason less  $\text{GaCl}$  was generated in the system using solid GaAs as the group III source is explained by the following reactions.



Reaction 6-12 refers to the system using the solid source and, at 973 K, has a Gibbs energy change of 3.2 kcal/mole while reaction 6-13, representing the system with a liquid source, undergoes a Gibbs energy change of -12.5 kcal/mole. The negative Gibbs energy change of reaction 6-13 causes the products of the reaction to be favored.

The influence of temperature and pressure on the vapor phase III/V ratio for solid and liquid group III sources is shown in Figure 6-10. When a liquid source is used, the III/V ratio is limited to a maximum of 3. This is due to most of the Ga being transported as GaCl and the 3 to 1 ratio of Cl atoms to As atoms in  $\text{AsCl}_3$ . Increasing temperatures cause the III/V ratio to decrease when a liquid source is used due to the increased amount of As present in the liquid. The III/V ratio increases with increasing temperature for solid sources due to a lowering of the Gibbs energy (due to entropic effects) of reaction 6-12. Increasing pressure causes a decrease in the III/V ratio for both the solid and liquid source systems due to reversal of reactions 6-12 and 6-13.

The source zone results were carried through the mixing zone and deposition zone for the system using a liquid group III source. The mixing zone yielded the same results as did the source zone (both zones operating at a temperature of 973 K) and the deposition zone showed the same trends as were observed in the source and mixing zones except that the values of silicon activity were slightly higher due to the lower deposition zone temperature (873 K).



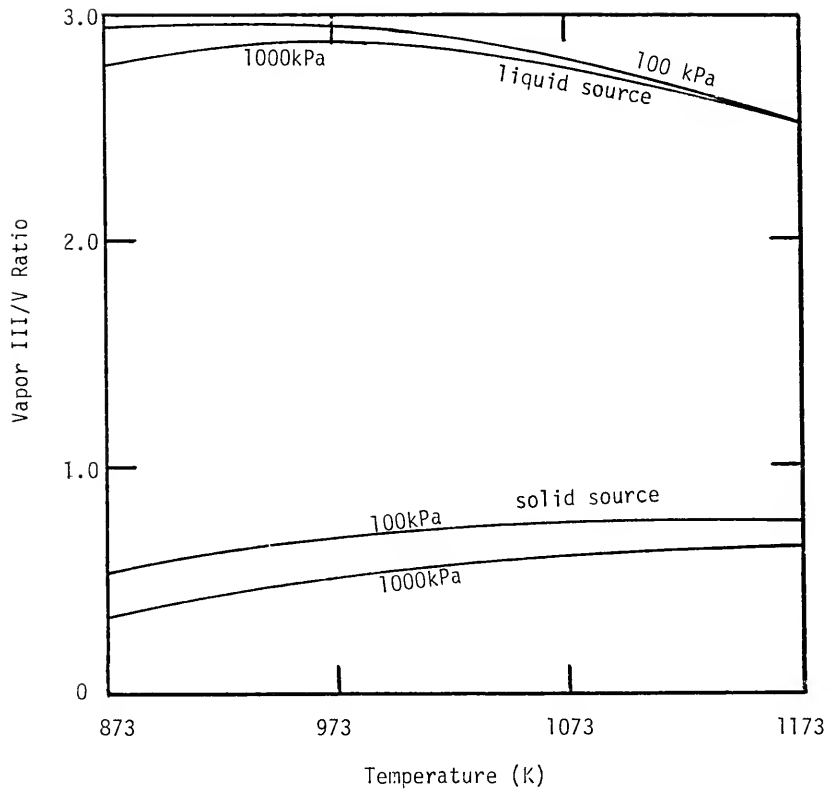


Figure 6-10  
Temperature and Pressure Effects on the Vapor III/V Ratio  
in the GaAs Chloride System Source Zones (Solid and Liquid Sources)

A very effective way to reduce the silicon activity in systems using a liquid group III source is to add HCl (or AsCl<sub>3</sub>) downstream of the source zone. This allows the chlorine atoms to react with the silicon species instead of generating additional GaCl.

Figure 6-11 shows the effect of adding small quantities of HCl to the mixing zone on the condensed phase silicon activity in the deposition zone (basis: 1 mole of vapor in the mixing zone). The initial HCl mole fraction in the deposition zone prior to the addition of any HCl was  $4.5 \times 10^{-5}$ . In accord with reactions 6-1, 6-2, 6-5 and 6-6, the silicon compounds shifted from being hydrogen rich to chlorine rich and the silicon activity decreased markedly. The addition of AsCl<sub>3</sub> had the same effect except that the activity decrease is slightly more pronounced since there are three chlorine atoms per molecule of AsCl<sub>3</sub> compared to one for HCl.

Another method of decreasing the condensed phase silicon activity is to add H<sub>2</sub>O to the system. This causes a decrease in the total amount of silicon in the vapor by shifting reactions 6-1 and 6-2 in favor of SiO<sub>2</sub>(c). This effect is demonstrated in Figure 6-12 for small additions of H<sub>2</sub>O to the mixing zone (basis: 1 mole of vapor in the mixing zone) where the mole fraction of H<sub>2</sub>O prior to the additions was  $5.5 \times 10^{-9}$ . This effect was predicted by Rai-Choudhury [12] and observed by Palm et al. [17].

Replacing the hydrogen carrier gas with an inert gas is yet another method of reducing the condensed phase silicon activity. This method also reduces the total amount of silicon in the vapor by shifting reactions 6-1 and 6-2 in favor of SiO<sub>2</sub>(c) as shown in Figure 6-13. Reduction of silicon incorporation using an inert to replace H<sub>2</sub> was

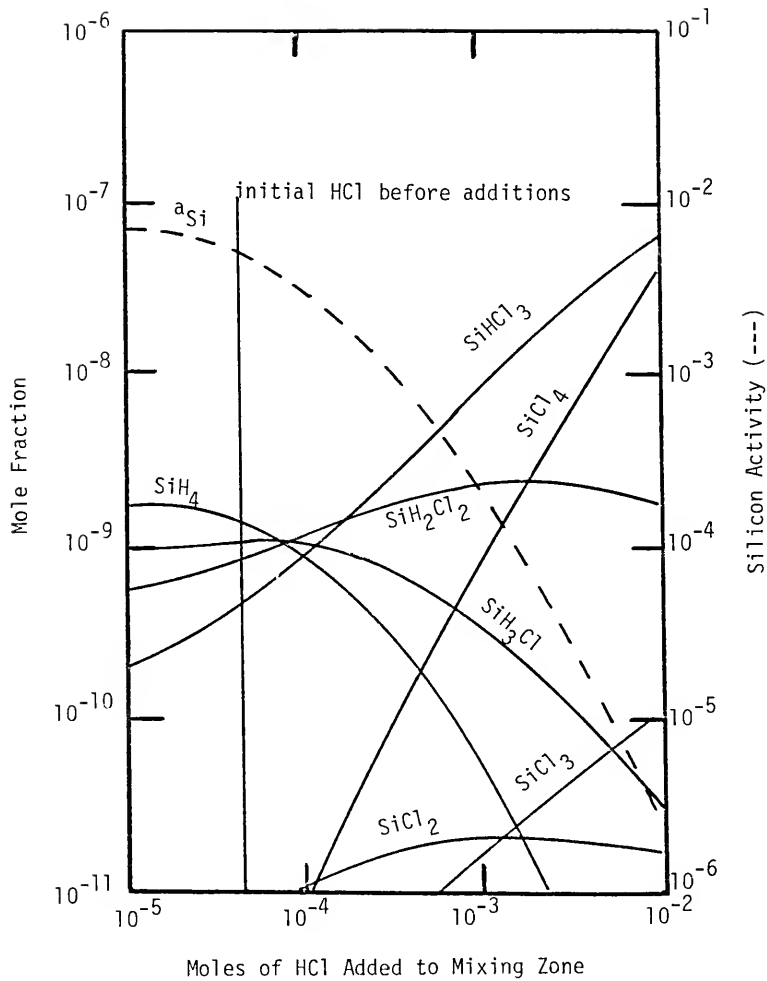


Figure 6-11  
Effect of Adding HCl on the GaAs Chloride System Deposition Zone

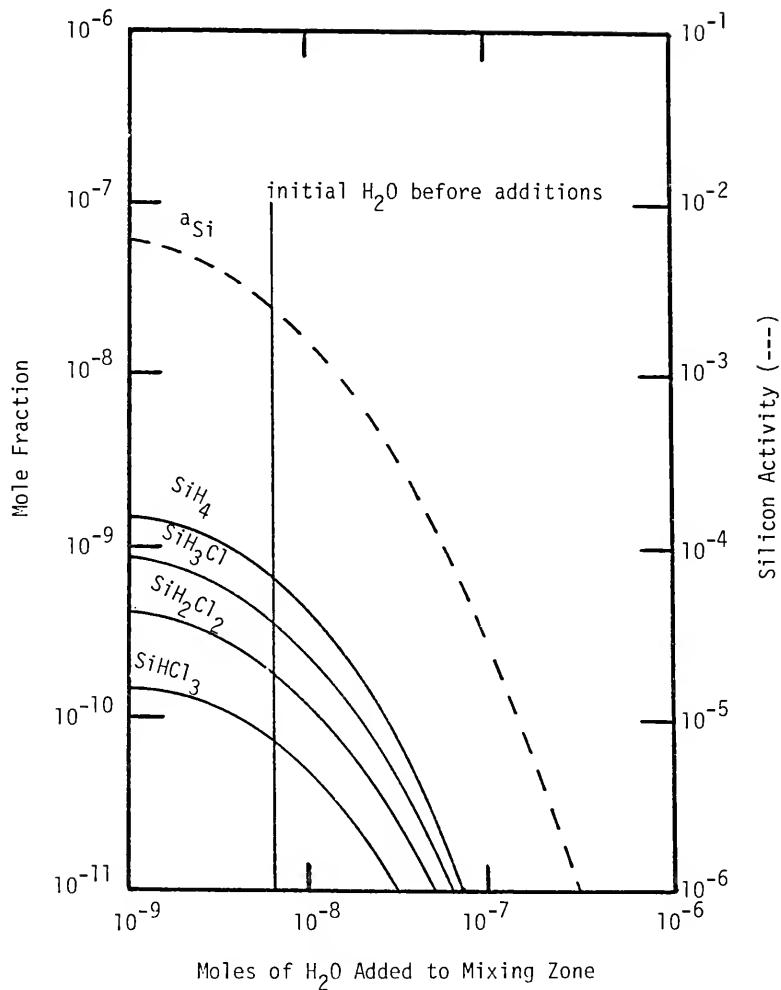


Figure 6-12  
Effect of Adding  $H_2O$  on the GaAs Chloride System Deposition Zone

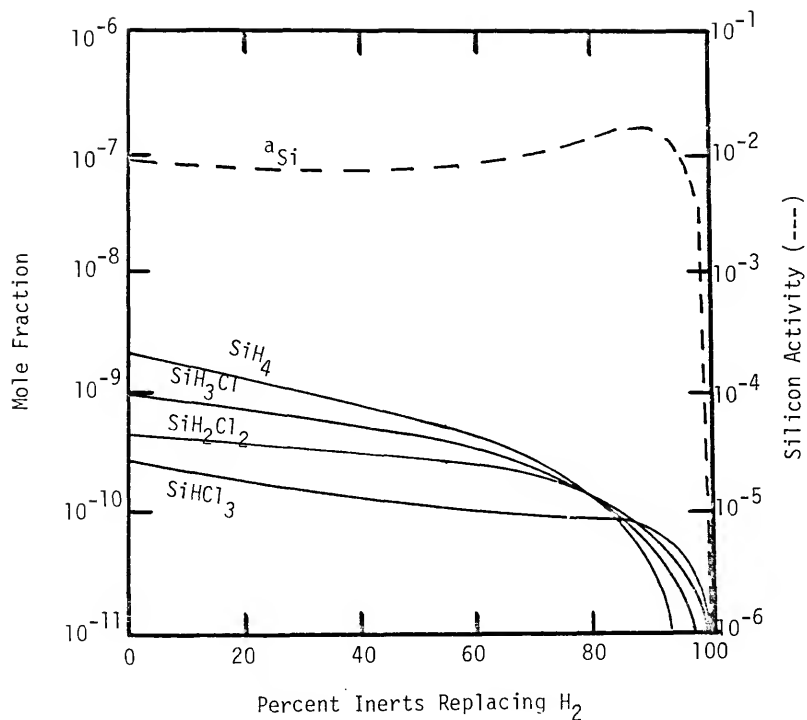


Figure 6-13  
Effect of Replacing  $H_2$  with Inerts on the GaAs  
Chloride System Deposition Zone

studied by Seki et al. [18] and observed by Ozeki et al. [19]. The curvature in the silicon activity is best understood by referring to reaction 6-5. As the hydrogen carrier gas is replaced by an inert, the mole fractions of  $H_2$  and  $SiH_4$  decrease. The competing nature of these two mole fractions causes a maximum in the condensed phase silicon activity to occur at approximately 90% inerts after which the silane mole fraction rapidly goes to zero and the silicon activity decreases to a very small value. The silicon activity will never reach zero as predicted by 6-6 since reactions 6-1, 6-2, 6-5 and 6-6 are not valid models in systems devoid of hydrogen. Instead, small concentrations of  $Si(g)$ ,  $SiO(g)$ , etc. will remain in the vapor to provide a nonzero but very small condensed phase silicon activity.

The use of solid GaAs as the group III source material appears to offer an advantage over the liquid group III source in that lower condensed phase silicon activities were predicted by these thermodynamic models. It must be emphasized, however, that the solid GaAs source was assumed to be pure (i.e. devoid of Si and other contaminants) and, from a thermodynamic point of view, that the purity of an epitaxial layer can be no better than that of the source material unless methods are employed to improve the purity (e.g. additions of  $HCl$ ,  $H_2O$ , etc.) during the CVD process.

#### The GaAs Hydride System

The effect of temperature on the silicon species present in the group III and group V source zones of the GaAs hydride system is shown in Figures 6-14 and 6-15. The condensed phase silicon activity for the group V source zone was essentially the same as that which would be observed in the group V pre-source zone ( $AsH_3$  absent) since arsine did

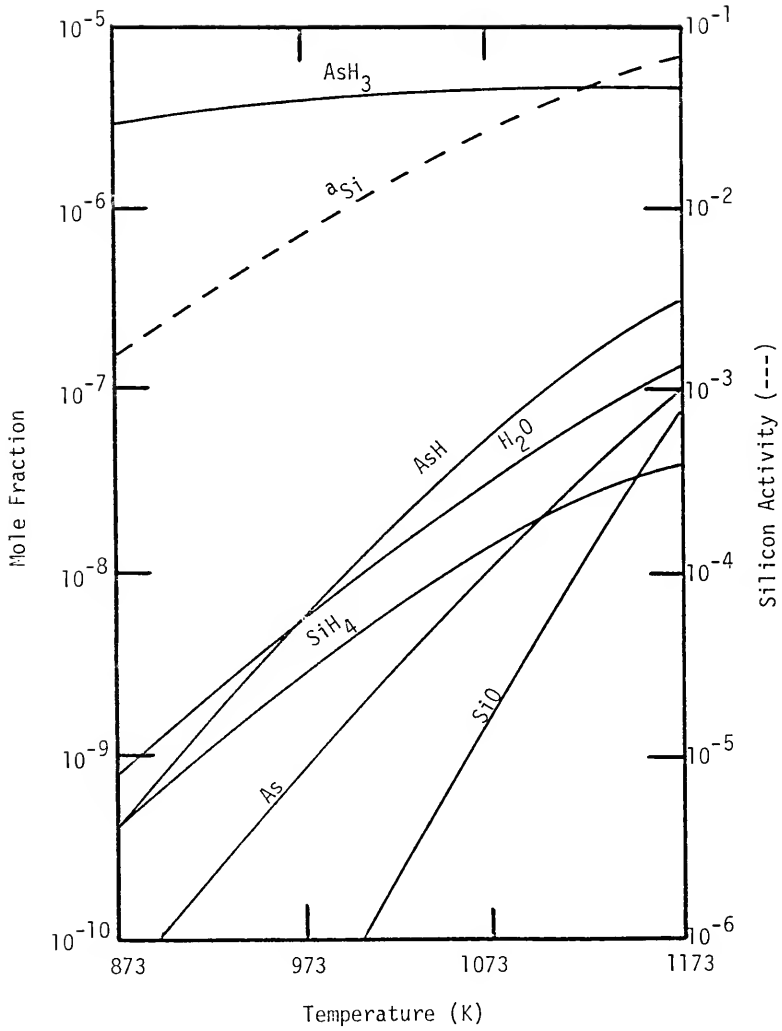


Figure 6-14  
Effect of Temperature on the Group V Source Zone of the GaAs Hydride System

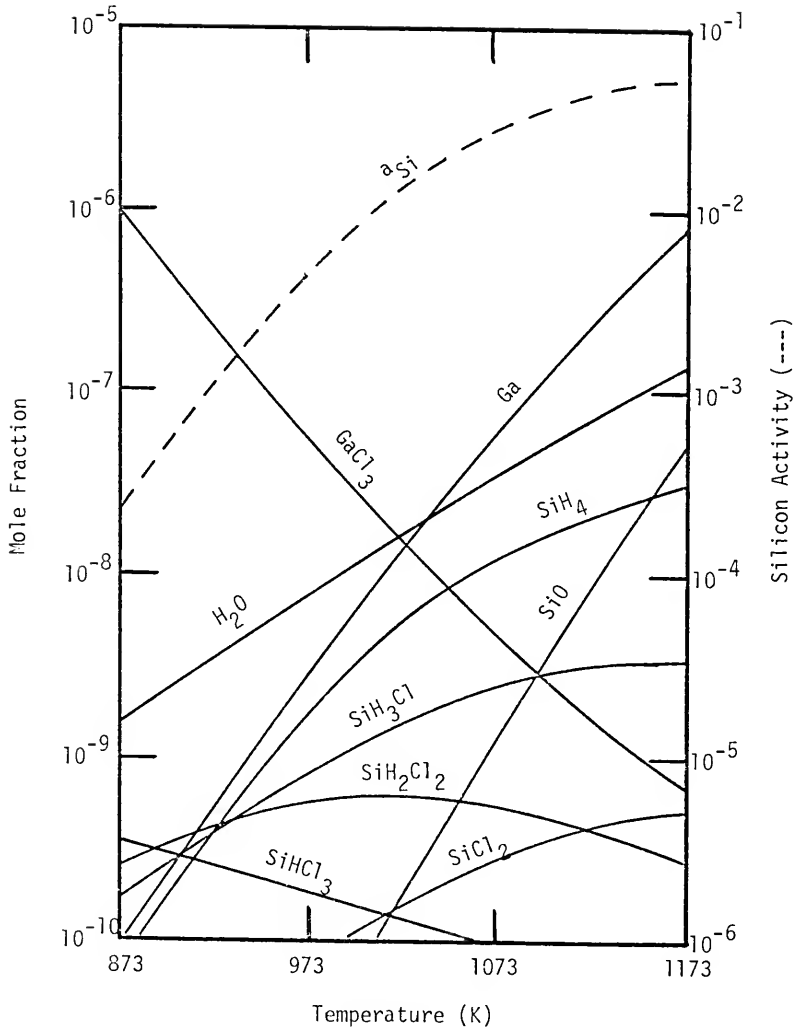


Figure 6-15  
Effect of Temperature on the Group III Source Zone of the  
GaAs Hydride System



not compete with silicon for any atoms in the vapor other than hydrogen. The group III source zone showed a much greater silicon activity than the group III pre-source zone (Ga(l) absent), shown in Figure 6-16, since the liquid gallium source reacted strongly with HCl to form GaCl. This forced the silicon species to be rich in hydrogen and therefore the condensed phase silicon activity was larger. As can be seen from Figures 6-14 and 6-15, the group V source zone was primarily responsible for the silicon activity at low temperatures while at high temperatures, the group III source zone contribution to the silicon activity also became important. As was observed in the chloride system for the liquid  $\text{Ga}_x\text{As}_{1-x}$  source, the dominant group III vapor species was GaCl with  $\text{As}_4$  being the dominant group V vapor species at temperatures below 1073 K and  $\text{As}_2$  dominant above this temperature.

The results of these group III and V source zone calculations at 973 K were then combined and the effect of temperature in the mixing zone was investigated. Figure 6-17 shows this effect on the silicon activity and species in the lower five orders of magnitude in mole fraction. The silicon activity and silane mole fraction were found to be lower than the values for the group V source zone alone at low temperatures due to the dilution effect of adding the two source zone streams together (equal molar flowrates were assumed in each source zone). Since the silane mole fraction, and therefore the silicon activity, in each source zone was approximately the same at 1173 K, the resulting silicon activity in the mixing zone was the same as that at the outlet of either source zone.

Using the results from the mixing zone at 973 K, the deposition zone was studied in the absence of  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$ . The saturation ratio, as

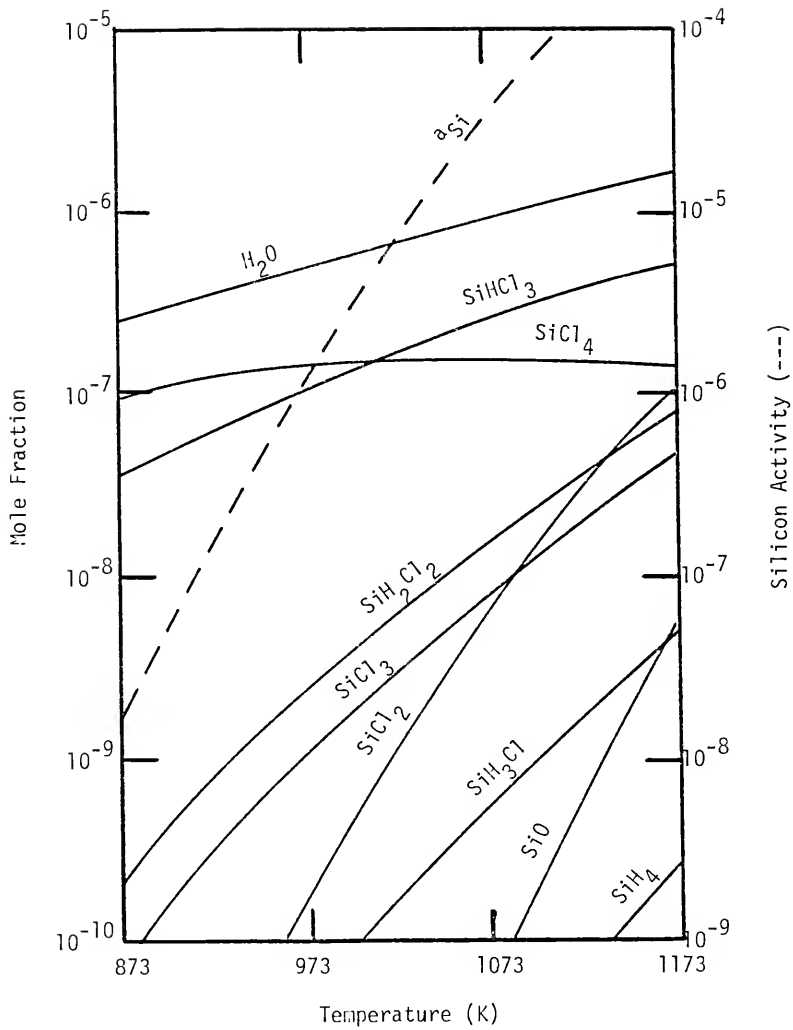


Figure 6-16  
Effect of Temperature on the Group III Presource Zone of the  
GaAs Hydride System

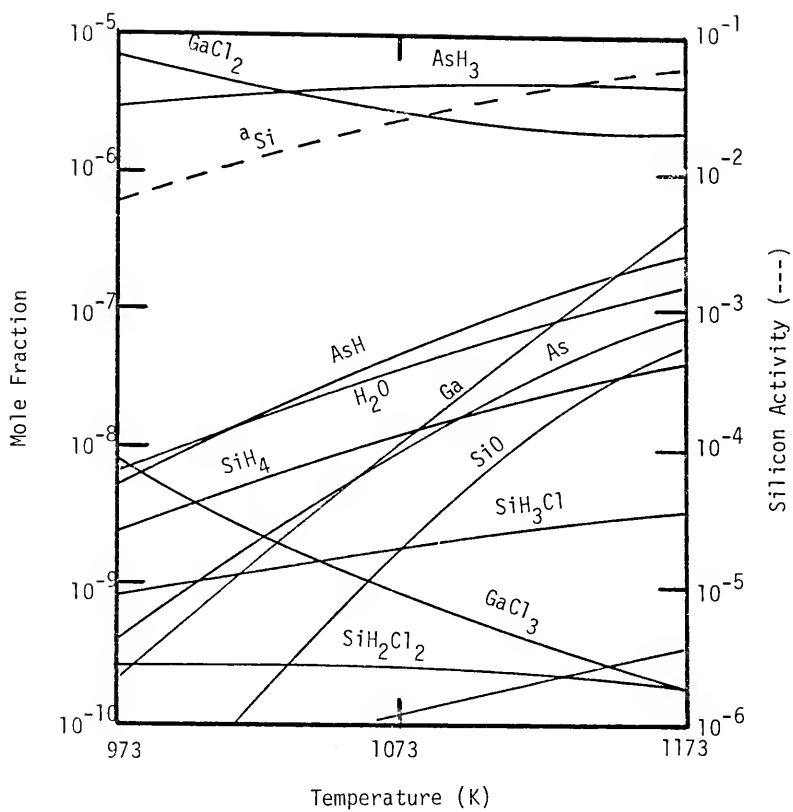


Figure 6-17  
Effect of Temperature on the Mixing Zone of the GaAs Hydride System

defined by equation 6-8, was found to decrease from  $2 \times 10^4$  at 773 K to 100 at 973 K, indicating that the vapor was supersaturated over the entire temperature range. The condensed phase silicon activity varied only slightly, increasing from  $2 \times 10^{-3}$  at 773 K to  $5 \times 10^{-3}$  at 973 K, which is consistent with the effects observed in the chloride system using a liquid  $\text{Ga}_x\text{As}_{1-x}$  group III source. The lesser degree of supersaturation found for the hydride system, when compared to the chloride system, was due to the lesser amounts of group III and V species present in the vapor. The dilution effect of adding the two source zone streams together causes the group V vapor species to be one-half the mole fraction observed in the chloride system. The use of HCl coupled with this dilution effect reduced the amount of group III species transport to one-sixth of that in the chloride system.

The group III and V source zones were investigated as a function of pressure at a temperature of 973 K. The silicon activity in the group V source zone remained constant to 10 kPa then fell from a value of  $3 \times 10^{-2}$  to  $4 \times 10^{-4}$  at 1000 kPa. The group III source zone exhibited a maximum in the condensed phase silicon activity at a pressure of 4 kPa, as did the chloride system source and mixing zones using a liquid group III source. Upon combining the two hydride system source zones and performing the mixing zone equilibrium calculation, the silicon activity in the mixing zone became a decreasing function of pressure.

The effect of pressure on the deposition zone of the hydride system very closely matched that of the chloride system. This result was expected since the source zones of the two systems are the only differences between the two and once downstream of the source zones, the equilibrium chemistry of the hydride and chloride systems are the same.

The concentration of  $\text{AsH}_3$  in the feed gas stream of the group V source zone was found to have no effect on the condensed phase silicon activity. This was due to the silicon species being rich in hydrogen and, in the presence of a large fraction of hydrogen carrier gas ( $> 90\%$ ), the hydrogen atoms released from the decomposition of  $\text{AsH}_3$  did not contribute significantly to the overall system hydrogen content. Therefore, the silane mole fraction was not significantly affected. In contrast, Pogge and Kemlage [37] found that increased  $\text{AsH}_3$  concentrations decreased the free carrier concentrations in epitaxial GaAs. They cited kinetic effects, however, not thermodynamic limitations as the reason for their observations.

Increasing the concentration of  $\text{HCl}$  in the feed stream to the group III source considerably decreased the condensed phase silicon activity by forming chlorine rich, as opposed to hydrogen rich, silicon species. Thus, one method of decreasing the silicon activity while maintaining a constant vapor III/V ratio is to increase both the  $\text{HCl}$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  mole fractions in the feed streams to each source zone together. This effect is demonstrated for the deposition zone in Figure 6-18. Additionally, if various III/V ratios are desired, it is advisable to operate the system with a large  $\text{HCl}$  concentration in order to realize a low silicon activity and vary the  $\text{AsH}_3$  concentration until the appropriate III/V ratio is attained.

As was discussed for the chloride system, a very effective method for reducing the silicon activity is to make small additions of  $\text{HCl}$  or  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to the mixing zone. This preserves the system III/V ratio from the hydride system source zones and shifts reactions 6-1 and 6-2 in favor of  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$ . The results for the hydride system were essentially

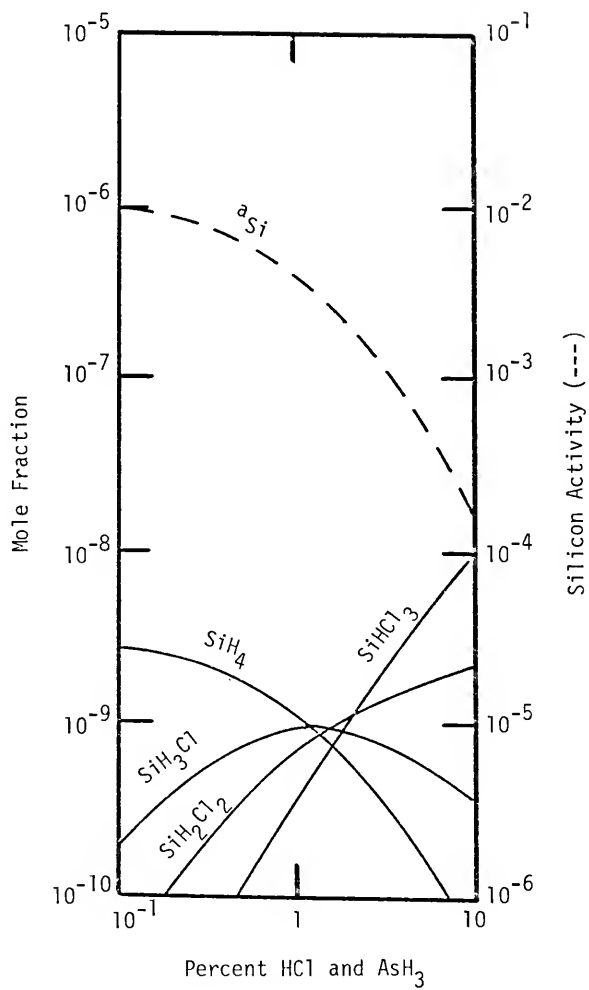


Figure 6-18  
Effect of Adding HCl on the GaAs Hydride System Deposition Zone

the same as those obtained for the chloride system and will not be discussed further.

Replacement of the hydrogen carrier gas by an inert gas was less effective in the hydride system than it was in the chloride system since hydrogen was provided by the decomposition of  $\text{HCl}$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$ . Figure 6-19 shows this effect for the hydride system deposition zone. Although a very sharp bend is observed in the silicon activity even when all of the hydrogen was replaced by inerts, the condensed phase silicon activity was approximately  $4 \times 10^{-5}$ . Therefore, replacing the hydrogen carrier gas by an inert gas was not an acceptable method to achieve low silicon activities. The addition of small amounts of  $\text{HCl}$  or  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to the mixing zone appears to be the most promising method of attaining very low silicon activities in the hydride system.

#### The InP Chloride System

The InP chloride system was investigated under the same conditions as the GaAs chloride system and was found to behave similarly in many respects. The source zone using liquid  $\text{In}_x\text{P}_{1-x}$  as the group III source material was quite similar to the GaAs system in that  $\text{InCl}$  and  $\text{P}_4$  were the dominant group III and V vapor species. One difference observed was that  $\text{P}_2$  was not as significant in the InP system as  $\text{As}_2$  was in the GaAs system. This may be due, however, to the equilibrium calculation being constrained as a result of the lack of a thermodynamic data set for the species  $\text{P}_3$ . The condensed phase silicon activities for the GaAs and InP systems were found to be essentially the same. These same comments also apply to the mixing zone which was fed from this source zone.

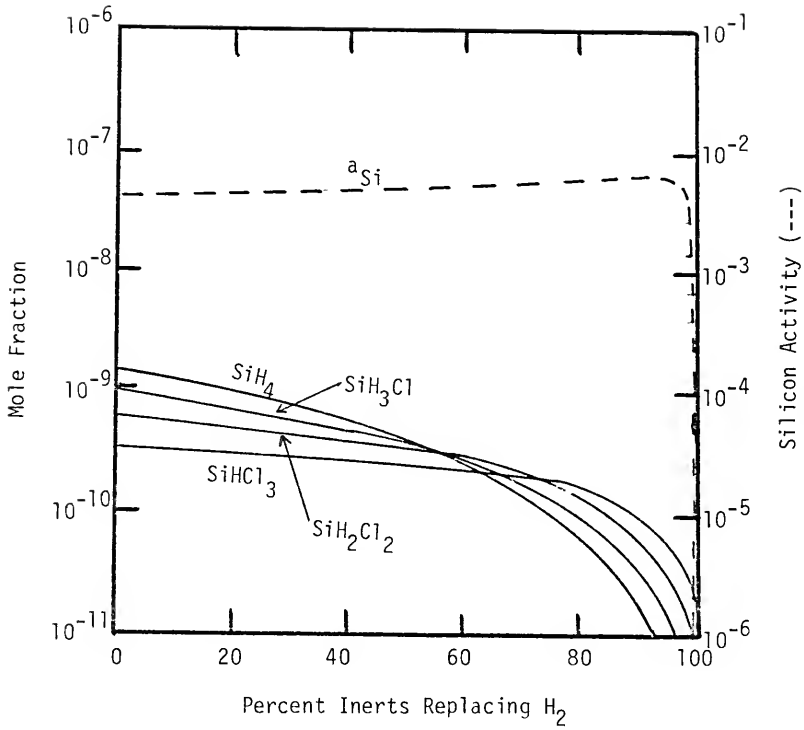


Figure 6-19  
Effect of Replacing  $H_2$  with Inerts on the GaAs Hydride System Deposition Zone



Consistent with the calculational technique employed for the GaAs chloride system, the vapor phase inlet composition to the deposition zone was determined by the equilibrium composition of the mixing zone. The mixing zone inlet composition was determined by the equilibrium source zone composition. The deposition zone of the InP chloride system was studied for a source zone using a liquid group III source ( $\text{In}_x\text{P}_{1-x}$ ) with a vapor inlet composition of 1%  $\text{PCl}_3$  in  $\text{H}_2$ . The source and mixing zone temperatures were both 973 K and the pressures in the source, mixing and deposition zones were 100 kPa.

The deposition zone, shown in Figures 6-20 and 6-21 for the situation where  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  was not included in the calculation, demonstrates several differences between the GaAs and InP chloride systems. First, the saturation ratio for the InP system, defined in analogy with equations 6-7 and 6-8, was much smaller than that of the GaAs system. This is due to the Gibbs energy change for reaction 6-7 at 873K being 95.2 kcal/mole for GaAs while the Gibbs energy change for the analogous InP system is only 69.5 kcal/mole. The value of the equilibrium constant for the InP system is, therefore, much larger than that for the GaAs system. Thus, larger vapor phase In and P partial pressures must be present in order to attain equal degrees of supersaturation in the two systems. Since the saturation ratio definition is independent of the process to which it is applied, it is expected that the InP hydride system will also show a lesser degree of supersaturation than the GaAs hydride system. These results are consistent with those of Shaw [23] who also found, through thermodynamic calculations, that InP systems are less supersaturated than GaAs systems.

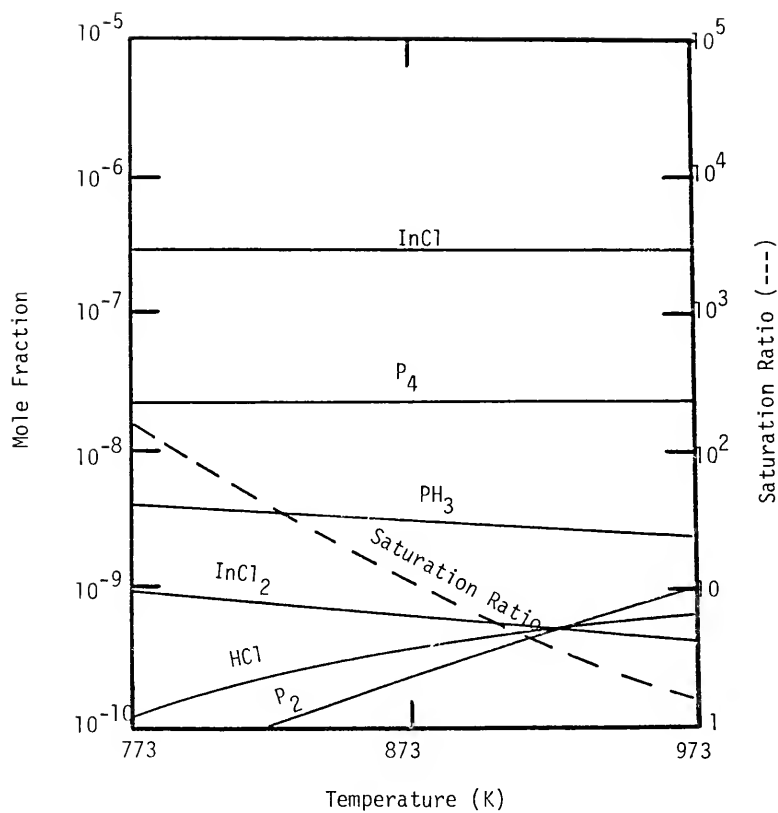


Figure 6-20  
Effect of Temperature on the InP Chloride System Deposition Zone

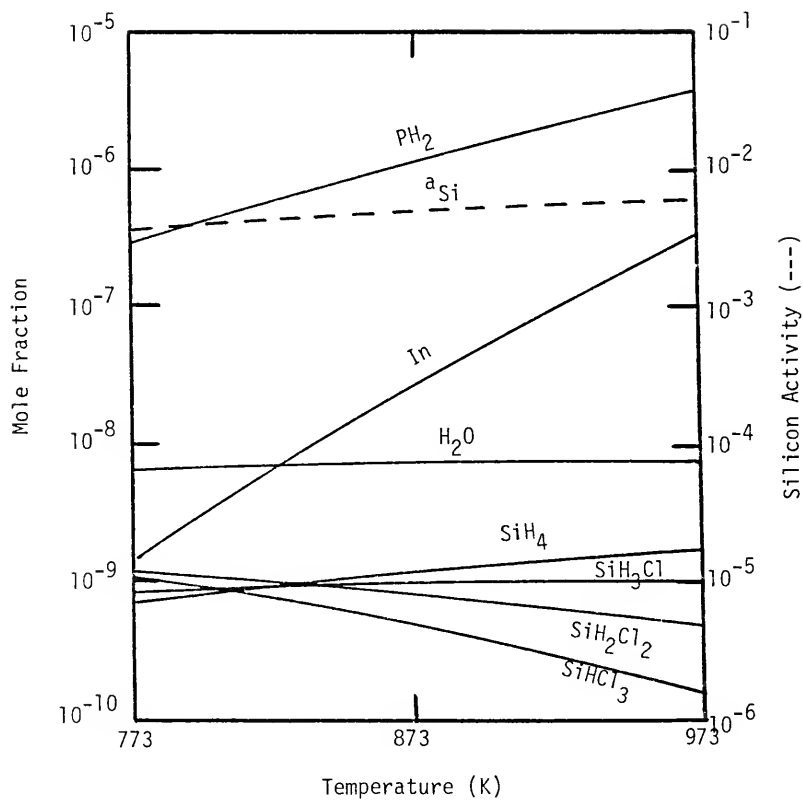
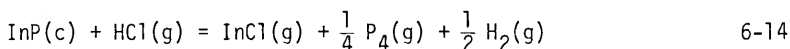


Figure 6-21  
Effect of Temperature on the InP Chloride System Deposition Zone

The condensed phase silicon activity for the InP system was slightly lower than that of the GaAs system, due to the lower  $\text{SiH}_4$  mole fraction, but increased slightly with temperature. Recall that the silicon activity in the GaAs system displayed a slight decrease in temperature when  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{c})$  was not included in the calculation.

The InP source zone using solid InP as the group III source material is shown in Figures 6-22 and 6-23. The behavior of this system was markedly different than that of the analogous GaAs system in that  $\text{InCl}$  was clearly the dominant group III vapor specie due to the favorable Gibbs energy change ( $-8$  kcal/mole at 973 K) of the following reaction when compared to reaction 6-12 (3.2 kcal/mole at 973 K).



The formation of a larger amount of group III monochloride consumed much of the  $\text{HCl}$  initially present in the system and caused the vapor phase silicon species to be higher in hydrogen content than those species in the analogous GaAs system. As a result, the condensed phase silicon activity in the InP chloride system, using solid InP in the source zone, was found to be much larger than that of the GaAs system. These same comments also apply to the mixing and deposition zones of the InP system which follow the source zone using solid InP as the group III source material.

The effect of pressure on the InP chloride system followed closely that observed for the GaAs system, relative to the previous discussed differences. Thus, for the system employing liquid  $\text{In}_x\text{P}_{1-x}$  as the group III source, the condensed phase silicon activity in each zone was slightly lower than that of the GaAs system and the InP saturation ratio in the deposition zone was much less than that of the GaAs system. As

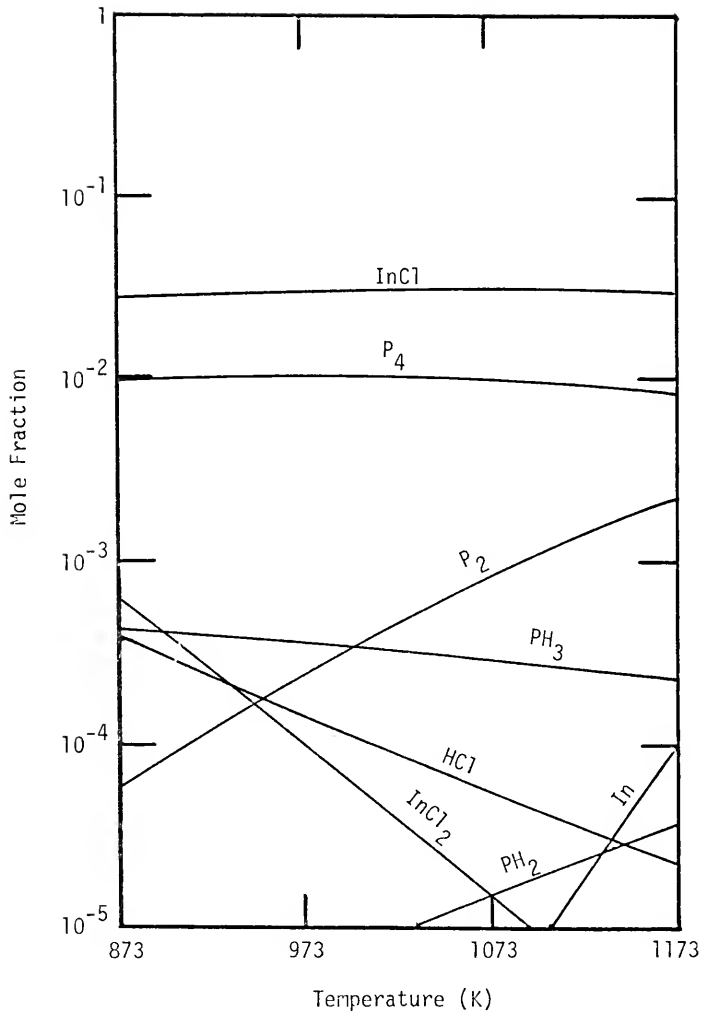


Figure 6-22  
Effect of Temperature on the InP Chloride System Source Zone  
(Solid Source)

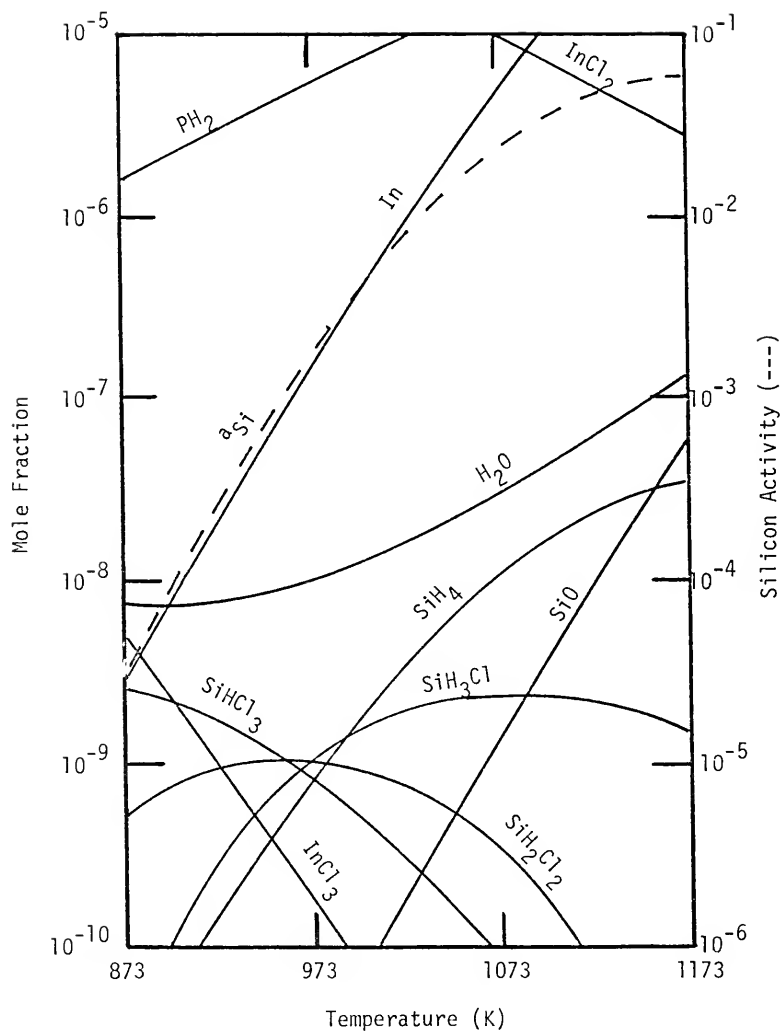


Figure 6-23  
Effect of Temperature on the InP Chloride System Source Zone  
(Solid Source)

in the GaAs system, maxima were observed in the condensed phase silicon activities at 4 kPa in the source and mixing zones. The chloride system, using solid InP as the group III source, also displayed a pressure dependence which was similar to that of the analogous GaAs system. The major differences being that InCl was clearly the dominant group III species and the condensed phase silicon activity was much higher in the InP system, due to reasons previously discussed for GaAs.

The influence of  $\text{PCl}_3$  inlet concentration on the InP system was similar to that of  $\text{AsCl}_3$  in the GaAs system with the following differences. When liquid  $\text{In}_x\text{P}_{1-x}$  was used as the group III source material, the condensed phase silicon activity was always 20% to 50% less than that of the corresponding GaAs system. This was due to  $\text{InCl}_3$  being present in a smaller amount in the InP system than  $\text{GaCl}_3$  was in the GaAs system. Thus, more chlorine was available to react with the silicon vapor species. When solid InP was used as the group III source material, the silicon activity in the InP system was greater than that of the corresponding GaAs system due to the large amount of InCl formed.

The replacement of the hydrogen carrier gas by an inert gas was also investigated in the InP system with the results following the same trends as did the analogous GaAs system. The differences between the systems were consistent with the previous discussions, i.e. the condensed phase silicon activity for the InP system using solid InP for a source was larger than the GaAs system and the liquid source InP system showed a slightly reduced silicon activity in the deposition zone relative to the GaAs system.

Additions of  $\text{HCl}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{PCl}_3$  to the mixing zone of the InP system were also studied. The trends observed were the same as those in the GaAs system.

#### The InP Hydride System

The results of a parametric analysis of the InP hydride system were similar to those of the GaAs hydride system discussed previously. The condensed phase silicon activity in the InP system was found to be consistently less than that in the GaAs system under all analogous conditions. At very low inlet  $\text{HCl}$  concentrations ( $\sim 0.1\%$ ) the silicon activities were nearly the same while at large inlet concentrations ( $\sim 10\%$ ), the InP system exhibited silicon activities which were half the value of those in the GaAs system. This was primarily due to the more negative Gibbs energy of formation of  $\text{GaCl}$  ( $-41.5$  kcal/mole at  $973$  K), which caused a greater production of  $\text{GaCl}$  via reaction 6-13, than  $\text{InCl}$  in the analogous reaction where In is the group III species. The differences in the Gibbs energy of formation at  $973$  K for  $\text{Ga}(1)$  and  $\text{In}(1)$  were not significant. Thus, more  $\text{HCl}$  was available in the InP system to form chlorine rich silicon vapor species via reaction 6-1, which in turn lowered the condensed phase silicon activity relative to the GaAs system.

Figures 6-24 and 6-25 show the effect of temperature on the deposition zone of the InP system. As observed in the chloride systems, the saturation ratio for InP was much smaller than that for GaAs. The hydride system showed that, for the source zone conditions shown in the figures, the InP system did not become supersaturated until the temperature was below  $860$  K. Alternatively, supersaturation at  $873$  K can be achieved by increasing the system pressure from  $100$  kPa to



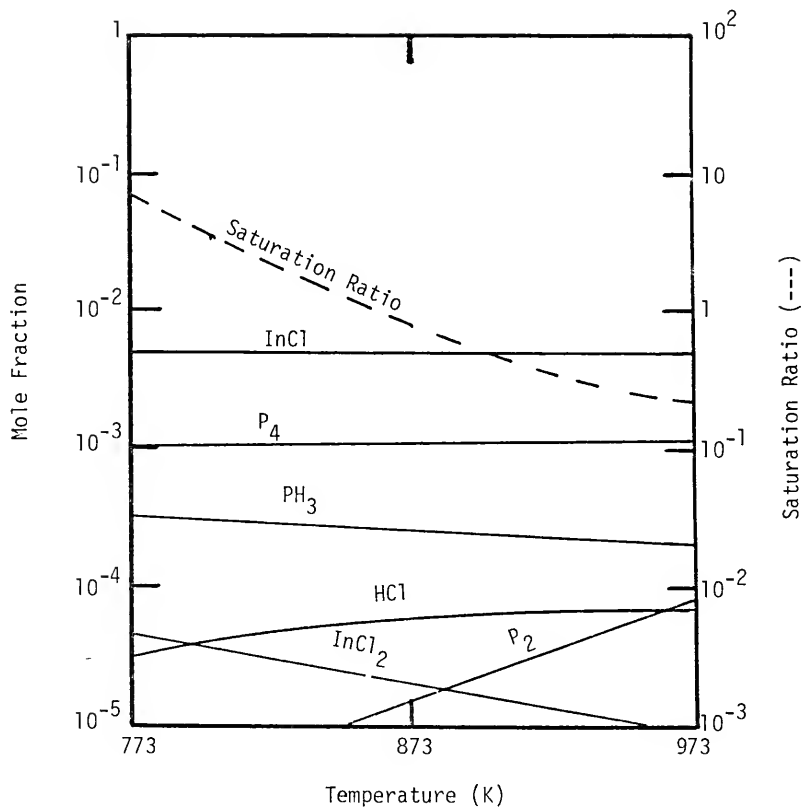


Figure 6-24  
Effect of Temperature on the InP Hydride System Deposition Zone

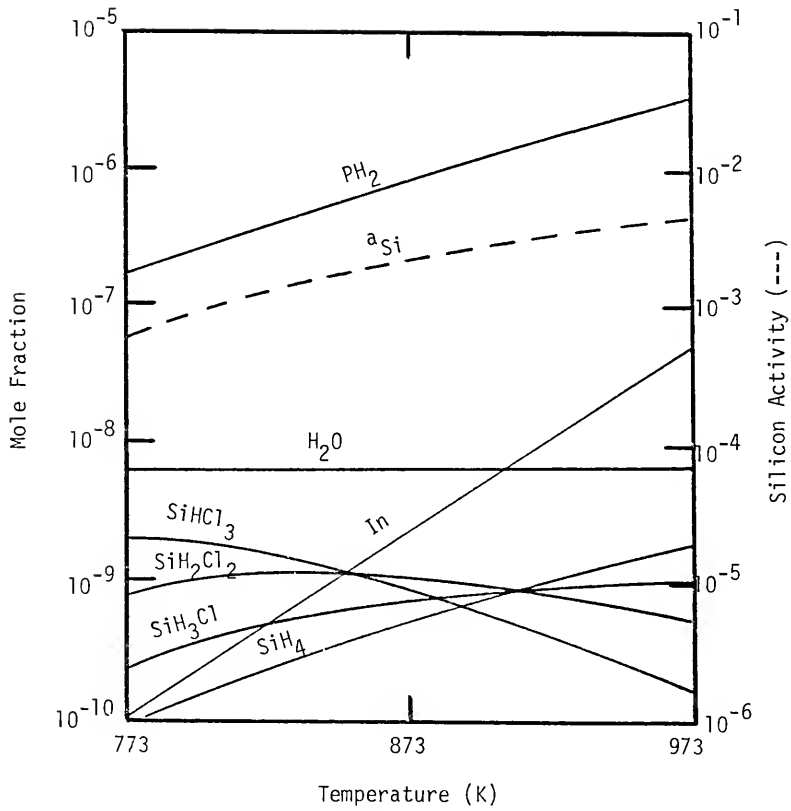


Figure 6-25  
Effect of Temperature on the InP Hydride System Deposition Zone

200 kPa or by increasing the  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{HCl}$  inlet compositions. These results are in contrast to those observed in the  $\text{InP}$  chloride system and both  $\text{GaAs}$  systems which displayed supersaturated conditions in the deposition zone under all situations studied.

### Thermal Decomposition of $\text{NH}_3$ , $\text{PH}_3$ and $\text{AsH}_3$

#### Results of the Thermal Decomposition Measurements

Before the thermal decomposition rate data could be taken, it was necessary to characterize the parameter  $A_e$ , which represents the sample orifice area and orifice discharge coefficient, in equation 5-5. As this parameter was expected to be dependent upon molecular weight and temperature, the gases  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{He}$ ,  $\text{N}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  were used to determine, empirically, a correlation for  $A_e$  over the temperature range  $600 \text{ K} < T < 1300 \text{ K}$ . For a nonreacting system equation 5-5 can be integrated to yield

$$\ln(P/P_i) = - \frac{A_e K_e}{V} \left( \frac{RT}{M_w} \right)^{1/2} t = -\alpha_i t \quad 6-15$$

where  $P_i$  is the initial pressure of species  $i$ . The heat capacity ratio,  $k$ , which is needed to evaluate  $K_e$  was calculated from the correlations shown in Table 6-2 and from using the relationship  $C_v = C_p - R$  for an ideal gas. From equation 6-15, it is apparent that one merely needs to follow the decay of pressure in the reaction tube in order to obtain a value for  $A_e$ . This was done for the gases in Table 6-2 over the temperature range previously mentioned and the results are shown in Figure 6-26. The lines in this figure represent the correlation

$$A_e = 3.99 \times 10^{-9} (M_w)^{0.07} - 5.6 \times 10^{-13} T \quad 6-16$$

where  $A_e$  has units of  $\text{M}^2$ . This correlation predicted values of  $A_e$  which were lower than the actual values for high molecular weight gases. However, as will be discussed in the error analysis, this shortcoming was only important for the lowest temperature  $\text{AsH}_3$  data.

Table 6-2

Heat Capacity Correlations for the Gases Used in these Experiments

Gas	$C_p$ (cal/mole - K)
H <sub>2</sub>	$15.256 + 0.00212T - 59060/T^2 - 1.462 \ln T$
He	4.992
N <sub>2</sub>	$6.524 + 0.00125T - 1 \times 10^{-9}T^2$
CO <sub>2</sub>	$6.214 + 0.0104T - 3.545 \times 10^{-6}T^2$

NOTES: The correlation for H<sub>2</sub> is from Table 4-1  
 The other correlations are fits to data from the  
 JANAF Tables [77].

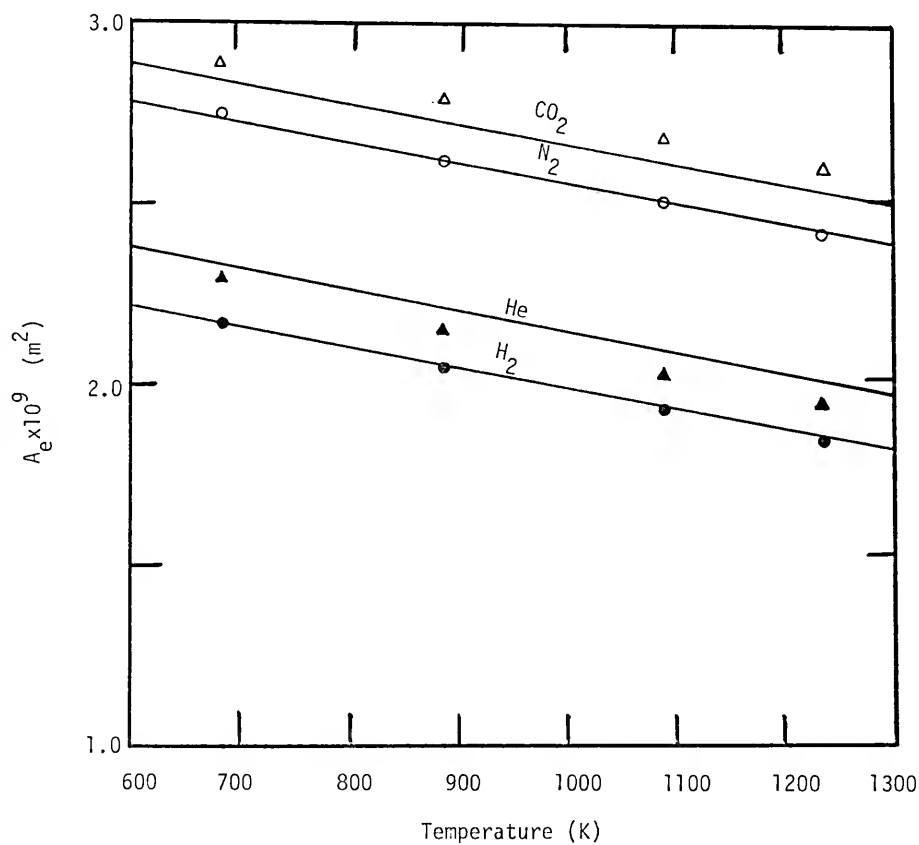
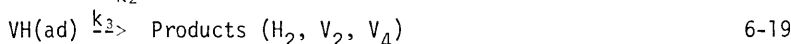


Figure 6-26  
Orifice Calibration Results  
( $\bullet$   $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\blacktriangle$  He,  $\circ$   $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\Delta$   $\text{CO}_2$ )

The decomposition of the group V trihydrides was followed in accordance with the procedure outlined in Chapter Five. The composition versus time data were similar for all of the group V trihydrides studied, thus suggesting a common mechanism for their decomposition. This contrasts with the results of previous investigators [57-61, 65] who concluded that the decomposition of  $\text{AsH}_3$  and  $\text{PH}_3$  were strictly first order and were unaffected by the presence of  $\text{H}_2$  in the system. The results presented in this chapter clearly indicate that the presence of  $\text{H}_2$  strongly influences the decomposition rate of  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$ .

The data taken was insufficient to identify all of the reactions taking place in the decomposition of  $\text{VH}_3$  into  $\text{V}_2$  and  $\text{V}_4$ . However, the following segment of a mechanism suggested by Kelvin [56] for  $\text{NH}_3$  decomposition adequately described the loss of  $\text{VH}_3$  from the system.



Equation 6-17 represents a Langmuir adsorption isotherm [176] which implies that the concentration of  $\text{VH}_3$  adsorbed on the surface of the vessel is at equilibrium with the vapor phase. The fraction of surface sites covered by  $\text{VH}_3$  molecules is given by [176]

$$\theta = \frac{K P_{\text{VH}_3}}{1 + K P_{\text{VH}_3}} \quad 6-20$$

where  $K$  is the equilibrium constant for reaction 6-17. From reaction 6-18, the rate of  $\text{VH}_3$  decomposition is

$$r = - \frac{k_1 K P_{\text{VH}_3}}{1 + K P_{\text{VH}_3}} + k_2 P_{\text{H}_2} [\text{VH}(\text{ad})] \quad 6-21$$

where  $[VH(ad)]$  is the concentration of adsorbed VH molecules. Assuming that  $[VH(ad)]$  is at steady state equation 6-21 becomes

$$r = - \frac{k_1 K P_{VH_3}}{1 + K P_{VH_3}} + \frac{k_1 k_2 K P_{VH_3} P_{H_2}}{(1 + K P_{VH_3})(k_3 + k_2 P_{H_2})} \quad 6-22$$

The results of other investigators have demonstrated that first order kinetics are often observed for  $NH_3$ ,  $PH_3$  and  $AsH_3$  decomposition under the conditions of constant  $H_2$  pressure [50-65]. Based on the reaction rate expression in equation 6-22, apparent first order behavior can be observed only if  $K P_{VH_2} \ll 1$ . Thus,

$$r = k_1 K P_{VH_3} \left( \frac{k_2}{k_3} P_{H_2} + 1 \right)^{-1} \quad 6-23$$

Combining equation 6-23 with equation 5-5 produces the following expression for the total loss rate of  $VH_3$  from the reaction tube

$$\frac{dP_{VH_3}}{dt} = P_{VH_3} \left[ k_1 K \left( \frac{k_2}{k_3} P_{H_2} + 1 \right)^{-1} - \frac{A_e K_e}{V} \left( \frac{RT}{M_w} \right)^{1/2} \right] \quad 6-24$$

The pressure of  $H_2$  in the system was controlled by the bleed imposed on the reactor by the gas sampling system. Therefore, applying equation 6-15

$$P_{H_2} = P_{H_2}^0 e^{-\alpha_{H_2} t} \quad 6-25$$

where  $\alpha_{H_2}$  represents the constants in equation 6-15 evaluated for  $H_2$  at the system temperature and  $P_{H_2}^0$  is the initial pressure of  $H_2$  in the reactor. Strictly speaking, equation 6-25 should contain a term for the production of  $H_2$  resulting from the decomposition of  $VH_3$ . This term was neglected since most of the hydrogen in the system was present as a result of the initial gas charge (>90%  $H_2$ ) and the gas sampling system removed  $H_2$  much faster than it was produced by the decomposition reaction.

Substituting equation 6-25 into 6-24 and integrating gives the result

$$\ln\left(\frac{P_{VH_3}}{P_{VH_3}^0}\right) = (k_1K + \alpha_{VH_3})t + \frac{k_1K}{\alpha_{H_2}} \ln\left[\frac{1 + \frac{k_2P_{H_2}^0}{k_3}e^{-\alpha_{H_2}t}}{1 + \frac{k_2P_{H_2}^0}{k_3}}\right] \quad 6-26$$

Equation 6-26 employs four reaction constants ( $K$ ,  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$ ,  $k_3$ ), however, only two parameters ( $k_1K$  and  $k_2/k_3$ ) are separable for fitting the rate data to the model. For all  $t > 0$ , the argument of the logarithm in the second term of equation 6-26 is always less than unity. Therefore, this term causes the rate of change of  $\ln(P^0/P)$  to be less than that due to the first term alone. At long times, the second term in equation 6-26 becomes approximately constant and a linear relationship between  $\ln(P^0/P)$  and  $t$  is obtained.

The observed rate data are plotted in Figures 6-27, 6-28 and 6-29 for  $NH_3$ ,  $PH_3$  and  $AsH_3$ , respectively. These data were fit to equation 6-26 using a maximum likelihood generalized least squares algorithm. The solid lines represent equation 6-26 with the parameters listed in Table 6-3. For an irreversible first order reaction, a plot of  $\ln(P^0/P)$  against time would yield a straight line. This type of relationship was observed for  $AsH_3$  and  $PH_3$  at high temperatures, but not for  $NH_3$  over the temperature range studied. All three systems studied yielded straight line relationships at long times due to the hydrogen partial pressure becoming small as a result of the gas sampling system. Generally, as the forward reaction rate increased (i.e.  $k_1K$  increased), the amount of curvature in the plots decreased due to the dominance of the first term in equation 6-26. It is clear from Figures 6-28 and 6-29 that for temperatures in excess of 850 K for  $PH_3$  and 780 K for  $AsH_3$ , these decomposition reactions may be accurately represented by an irreversible first order reaction. Since the source zones of the GaAs



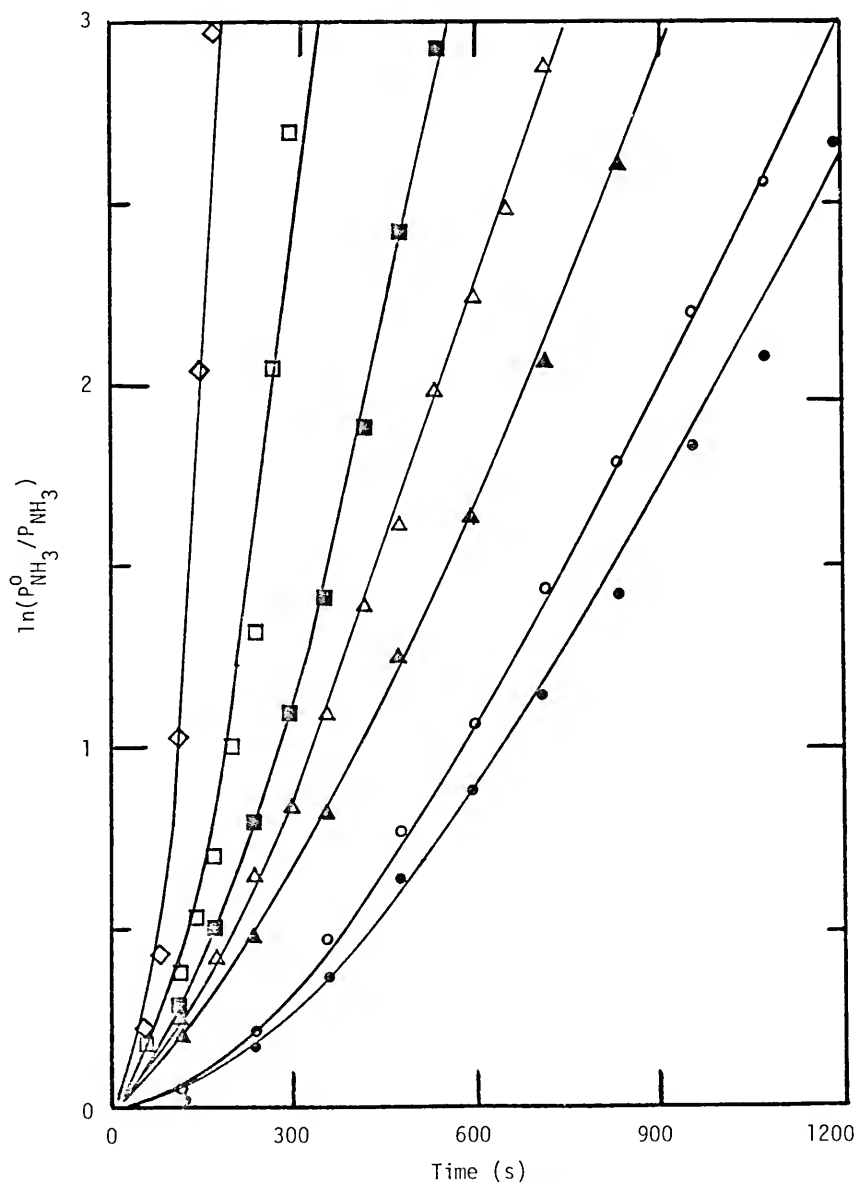


Figure 6-27  
 $\text{NH}_3$  Decomposition  
 (• 750K, ◊ 848K, ▲ 898K, △ 949K, ■ 992K, □ 1023K, ◇ 1048K)

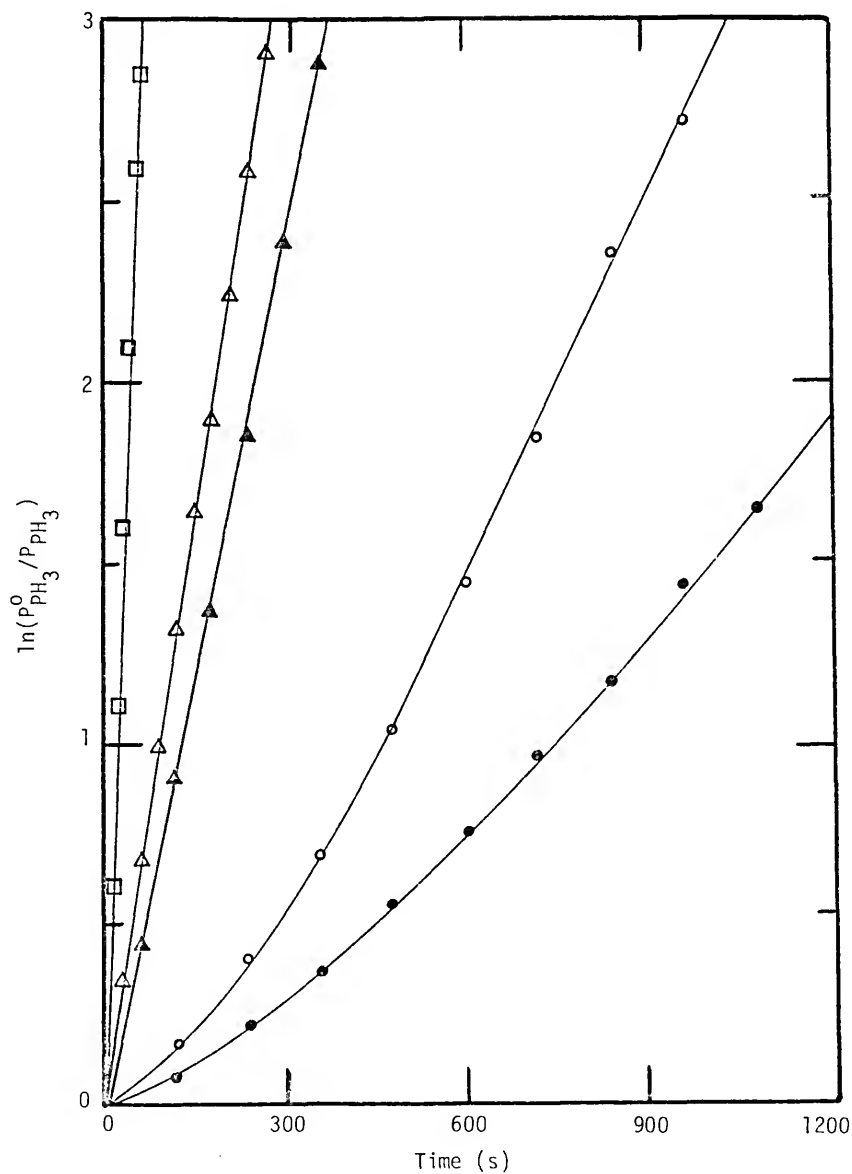


Figure 6-28  
 $\text{PH}_3$  Decomposition  
 (● 712K, ○ 815K, ▲ 846K, △ 855K, □ 909K)

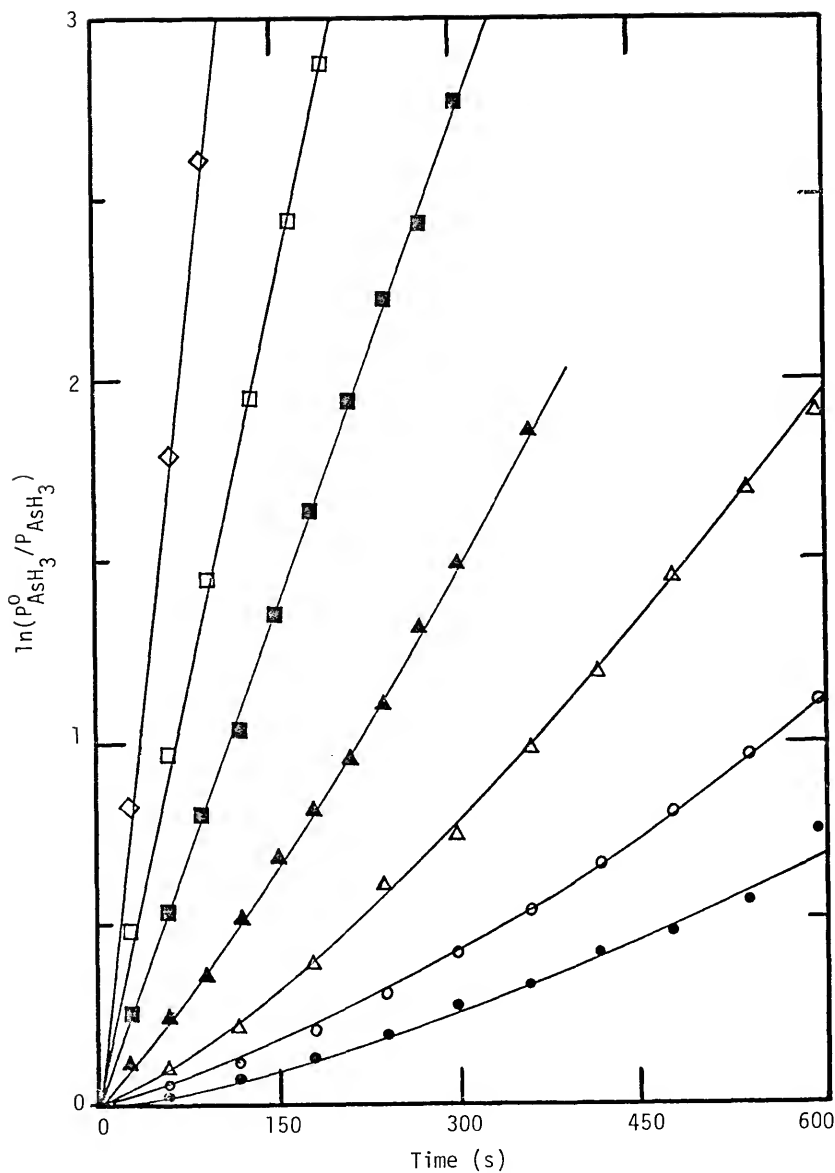


Figure 6-29  
 $\text{AsH}_3$  Decomposition  
 (● 712K, ○ 726K, △ 748K, ▲ 762K, ■ 779K, □ 796K, ◇ 816K)

Table 6-3  
Reaction Rate Curve Fitting Results

T(K)	$k_1 K(s^{-1})$	$\frac{k_2}{k_3} \times 10^8 (Pa^{-1} s^{-1})$	Gas
750	0.00284	3.37	NH <sub>3</sub>
848	0.00336	3.85	NH <sub>3</sub>
898	0.00406	3.31	NH <sub>3</sub>
949	0.00602	4.88	NH <sub>3</sub>
992	0.0115	10.8	NH <sub>3</sub>
1023	0.0292	27.8	NH <sub>3</sub>
1048	0.0843	82.5	NH <sub>3</sub>
712	0.00167	1.60	PH <sub>3</sub>
815	0.00388	3.35	PH <sub>3</sub>
846	0.00938	2.54	PH <sub>3</sub>
855	0.0108	----	PH <sub>3</sub>
909	0.0438	----	PH <sub>3</sub>
712	0.00157	1.41	AsH <sub>3</sub>
726	0.00314	2.67	AsH <sub>3</sub>
748	0.00526	3.85	AsH <sub>3</sub>
762	0.00812	4.41	AsH <sub>3</sub>
779	0.00881	----	AsH <sub>3</sub>
796	0.0147	----	AsH <sub>3</sub>
816	0.0288	----	AsH <sub>3</sub>

and InP hydride CVD systems are always operated above 873 K, a model using first order reaction kinetics is acceptable in these systems.

#### Analysis of Uncertainties in the Rate Data

The next item which must be accounted for during analysis of the rate data is the fact that the sample drawn from the reaction tube may not accurately represent the average concentration in the tube. Since these decomposition reactions are believed to be heterogeneous in nature, a sample obtained from the vicinity of the reactor wall may be expected to show a greater degree of conversion than one in the center of the reactor. Additionally, if a mass transfer barrier is present, the reaction may appear to be first order due to the rate of diffusion being proportional to the concentration gradient. This latter concern is investigated by considering the radial profile in an infinitely long cylinder with reaction at the tube wall. The analogous heat transfer problem has been solved by Carslaw and Jaeger [175]. The result, transformed to apply to a mass transport process is

$$C(r,t) = 2AC_0 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{J_0(a_n r) e^{-D_i a_n^2 t}}{(b_n^2 + A^2) J_1(a_n R)} \quad 6-27$$

where

$$A = Rk_{rxn}/D_i$$

$$b_n = Ra_n$$

and the eigenvalues,  $a_n$ , are the roots to the equation

$$bJ_1(b) - AJ_0(b) = 0 \quad 6-28$$

Diffusion coefficients for  $NH_3$ ,  $PH_3$  and  $AsH_3$  in  $H_2$ ,  $D_i$ , may be calculated using the Chapman-Enskog relation [177] and viscosity information [178]. The diffusion coefficients for these gases at 700 K

were determined to be 9.5, 6.7 and 3.9 cm<sup>2</sup>/s, respectively. These values may be corrected for other temperatures by assuming a T<sup>3/2</sup> dependence [177].

In order to transform the reaction rate coefficients obtained in this study to heterogeneous rate coefficients, they must be divided by the reaction tube surface to volume ratio

$$k_{rxn} = k_1 K / 75.1 \quad 6-29$$

Using the first 10 terms of equation 6-27, the radial composition profiles for NH<sub>3</sub>, PH<sub>3</sub> and AsH<sub>3</sub> were calculated for experimental conditions listed in Table 6-3. Since the reaction rate coefficient increased much faster than did the diffusion coefficients, the greatest amount of curvature in the radial composition profiles was found to occur at the highest temperatures studied. Further, the curvature in the compositions was greatest at times close to zero due to the composition dependence of the reaction rate. Figure 6-30 shows the calculated radial composition profiles for AsH<sub>3</sub>, PH<sub>3</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub> at the highest temperature investigated for each of the species, for a time 5s into each experiment. As is shown, the reaction tube centerline composition was approximately 1% larger than the composition at the wall. This small disparity between the centerline and wall compositions indicates that mass transport was not a limiting factor in these experiments. Further, the composition profiles shown in Figure 6-30 represent the greatest deviations from uniform radial compositions for all of the experimental conditions encountered.

The difference in composition between a sample drawn from the end of the reaction tube and the average composition in the reaction tube is investigated by determining the axial composition profile in the

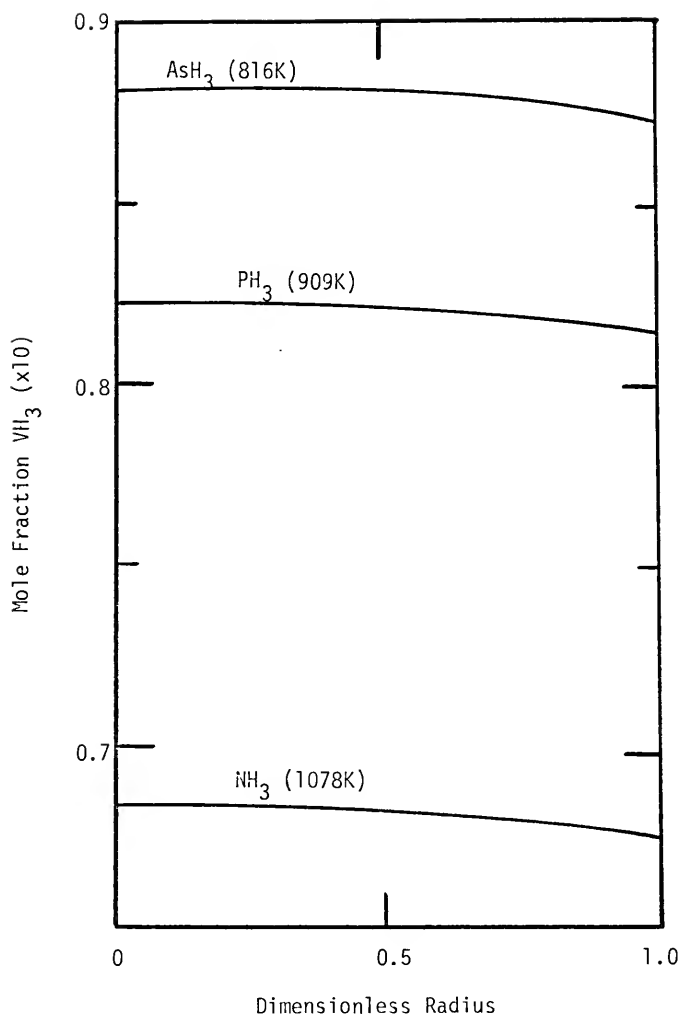


Figure 6-30  
Radial Composition Profiles in the Reaction Tube  
5s into the Reaction

tube. This model assumes that only diffusion exists in the tube (i.e. flow due to the sample orifice is neglected), the radial composition profile is flat, the reactor is isothermal and reaction occurs only at the walls (and ends) of the tube. The analogous heat transfer problem has been solved by Carslaw and Jaeger [175] and the result is presented here with the appropriate mass transport properties

$$C(z,t) = C_0 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2h \cos(a_n z) e^{-(Da_n^2 + v)t}}{[(h^2 + a_n^2)l + h] \cos(l a_n)} \quad 6-30$$

where:  $h = k_{rxn}/D$

$v = 2k_{rxn}/R$

$l = 1/2$  reactor length

The eigenvalues represented by  $a_n$  are the roots of the implicit equation

$$a_n \tan(l a_n) = h \quad 6-31$$

Figure 6-31 shows the axial composition profiles for  $AsH_3$ ,  $PH_3$  and  $NH_3$  at 816 K in the reaction tube as calculated from equation 6-30 using the first 10 eigenvalues. The average composition in the tube corresponds to 99% conversion of the  $VH_3$  initially present in the tube. The time required to reach this level of decomposition was determined to be 190 s for  $AsH_3$ , 1127 s for  $PH_3$  and  $2.08 \times 10^5$  s for  $NH_3$ . The large gradient in  $AsH_3$  composition is due to the high rate of reaction at this temperature and the small diffusion coefficient for  $VH_3$  relative to  $PH_3$  and  $NH_3$ . The calculated  $PH_3$  and  $NH_3$  axial composition profiles at 909 K and 1048 K were much more exaggerated than those shown in Figure 6-29, but were less dramatic than that of  $AsH_3$  at 816 K.



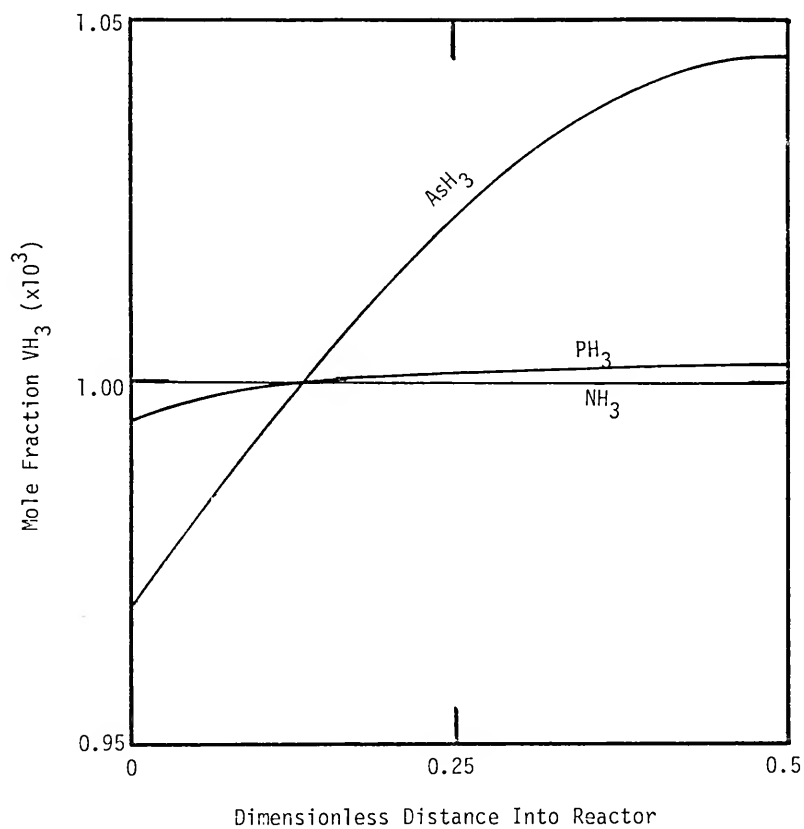


Figure 6-31  
Axial Composition Profile at 816K and 99% Decomposition

Due to the shape of the axial composition profile at high reaction rates, the effective first order rate constants ( $k_1K$ ) shown in Table 6-3 are greater than those averaged over the reaction tube length. The largest discrepancies were 4.3% for  $\text{AsH}_3$  at 816 K, 3.3% for  $\text{PH}_3$  at 909 K and 2.8% for  $\text{NH}_3$  at 1048 K. The  $k_1K$  values corrected for axial composition profiles are presented in Table 6-4.

The uncertainties associated with the  $k_1K$  values listed in Table 6-4 are due to the uncertainty associated with measuring the partial pressure of the gas with the mass spectrometer, the presence of the inlet tube which is not at the reaction tube temperature and, in the case of  $\text{AsH}_3$ , the underprediction for the value of  $A_e$  by equation 6-16. Very little background signal was present in the  $m/e$  ranges used for the investigation of  $\text{AsH}_3$  and  $\text{PH}_3$  decomposition. Thus, by making repetitive scans of the fragment ion patterns of these  $\text{VH}_3$  molecules at low temperature, it was determined that their presence could be detected to within an uncertainty of 65 Pa in the reaction chamber. Since the initial pressure of these gases was typically 9200 Pa and the final pressure after decomposition was approximately 130 Pa. The uncertainty varied from a minimum 0.7% to 50% for each datum. At low temperature, where the reaction rates were slowest, most of the data taken was at relatively high  $\text{VH}_3$  partial pressure and, therefore, the uncertainty of these data are the smallest. High temperature and fast reaction rates require that many data points at small  $\text{VH}_3$  partial pressure be taken. This causes the observed increase in uncertainty as the reaction rate increases.

The measurement of  $\text{NH}_3$  partial pressure was less precise than that of  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  due to the background created by the desorption

Table 6-4  
Corrected Rate Coefficient Results

$T(K)$	$k_1 K(s^{-1})$	Uncertainty (%)	Gas
750	0.00284	12	$NH_3$
848	0.00336	13	$NH_3$
898	0.00405	15	$NH_3$
949	0.0060	16	$NH_3$
992	0.0114	16	$NH_3$
1023	0.288	18	$NH_3$
1048	0.0827	26	$NH_3$
712	0.00167	4	$PH_3$
815	0.00386	5	$PH_3$
846	0.00929	7	$PH_3$
855	0.0107	8	$PH_3$
909	0.0424	14	$PH_3$
712	0.00156	6	$AsH_3$
726	0.00311	4	$AsH_3$
748	0.00519	5	$AsH_3$
762	0.00798	5	$AsH_3$
779	0.00862	6	$AsH_3$
796	0.0144	8	$AsH_3$
816	0.0276	12	$AsH_3$

of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  from the walls of the second stage of the vacuum system. Fluctuation in the background signal caused the uncertainty in the measurement of  $\text{NH}_3$  partial pressure to be 130 Pa. This uncertainty is exacerbated by the smaller concentration of  $\text{NH}_3$  in the gas cylinder (4.3%) compared to that of  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$  (10%). The maximum measured partial pressure of  $\text{NH}_3$  in the reaction tube was 5500 Pa which yields an uncertainty of 2.4%. The measurement of 130 Pa of  $\text{NH}_3$  carries with it an uncertainty of 100%. Therefore, the uncertainties associated with determining the  $\text{NH}_3$  compositions are much higher than those for  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$ .

The tube provided for inlet of the gases to the reaction chamber contained a volume of gas which was 0.4% of the volume of the reaction chamber. The surface area of the tube was approximately 5% of that in the reaction chamber. An uncertainty of 2% was assigned to each rate constant as a result of the presence of this tube.

The failure of equation 6-16 to accurately predict  $A_e$  for high molecular weight gases causes additional uncertainty in the  $k_1K$  values for  $\text{AsH}_3$ . Based on the results for  $\text{CO}_2$  shown in Figure 6-26, it appears that the predicted  $A_e$  value for  $\text{AsH}_3$  should be at most 10% low. The loss of gas due to the sampling orifice represents 1/3 of the first term in equation 6-21 for  $\text{AsH}_3$  decomposition at 712 K and even less at the higher temperatures. An uncertainty of 3% was added to the uncertainty at 712 K and 1% was added to the uncertainties at 726 K, 748 K, 762 K, and 779 K.

#### Determination of Activation Energies

The temperature dependence of the constant  $k_1K$  is determined by assuming an Arrhenius type dependence for  $k_1$

$$k_1 = k_0 e^{-E_a/RT}$$

and relating the equilibrium constant  $K$  to the enthalpy and entropy of adsorption through the Gibbs energy

$$K = e^{-(\Delta H_{ad} - T\Delta S_{ad})/RT} \quad 6-33$$

Thus, the temperature dependence becomes

$$k_1 K = (k_0 e^{\Delta S_{ad}/R}) e^{-(E_a + \Delta H_{ad})/RT} \quad 6-34$$

where  $E_a$  is the activation energy of the forward reaction 6-18. The data in Table 6-4 were fit to equation 6-34 and the result is shown in Figure 6-32 and Table 6-5. Due to the strong influence the presence of  $H_2$  had on the decomposition reactions for  $NH_3$  and  $PH_3$ , the low temperature rate constants were in poor agreement with equation 6-33. Therefore, only the four highest temperature reaction rate constants were included in the fit for these gases.

The apparent activation energies found by other investigators for the decomposition of  $NH_3$ ,  $PH_3$  and  $AsH_3$  on quartz are summarized in Table 6-6. The apparent activation energy found for  $AsH_3$  in these experiments is in reasonable agreement with that of Frolov et al. [65] who used an open system and infrared spectrophotometer. The apparent activation energy found for  $PH_3$  is approximately 10 kcal/mole lower than that found by other investigators. The results of van't Hoff and Kooj [57] and Hinshelwood and Topley [59] were based on manometric methods and, therefore, are expected to over estimate the activation energy. This is due to reactions in the decomposition sequence which may not have achieved equilibrium. The method employed by Devyatikh et al. [60] was not presented.

The apparent activation energy found for the decomposition of  $NH_3$  was significantly greater than that found by previous investigators [52, 53, 55]. All of these investigators employed manometric

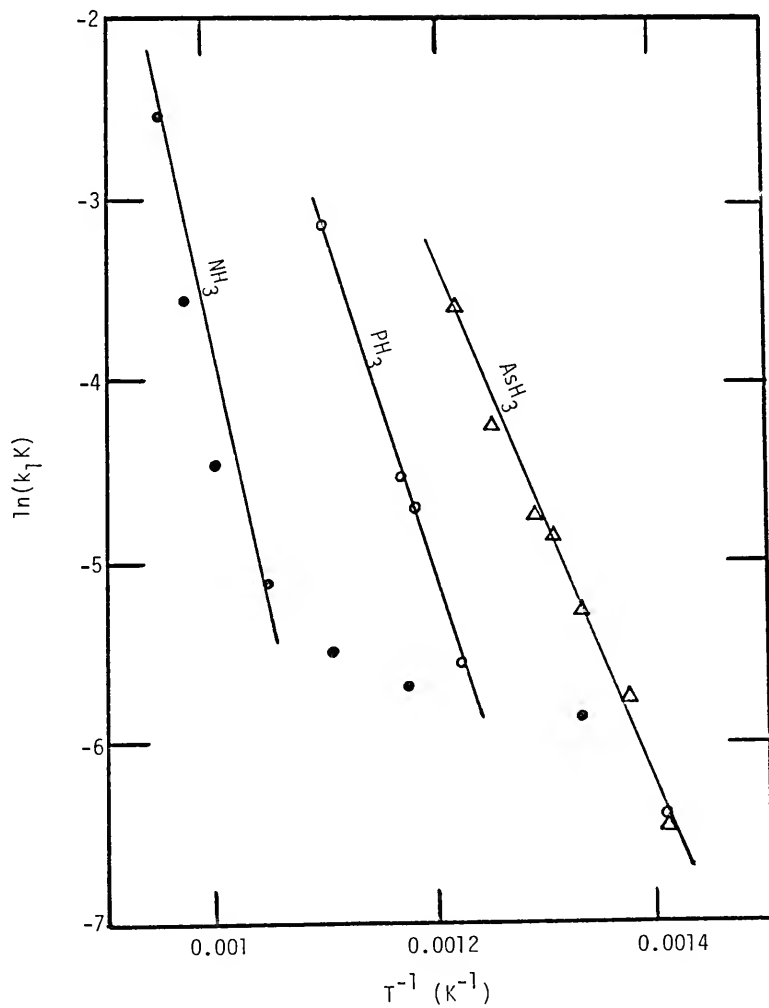


Figure 6-32  
Determination of Activation Energies for Decomposition  
(• NH<sub>3</sub>, ○ PH<sub>3</sub>, △ AsH<sub>3</sub>)

Table 6-5

Pre-exponential Factors and Apparent Activation Energies

Gas	$k_0 e^{\Delta S_{ad}/R} (s^{-1})$	$E_a + \Delta H_{ad} (kcal/mole)$	Uncertainty (%)
NH <sub>3</sub>	$2.92 \times 10^{11}$	60.2	19
PH <sub>3</sub>	$2.42 \times 10^7$	36.5	9
AsH <sub>3</sub>	$1.62 \times 10^6$	29.2	7

Table 6-6

Apparent Activation Energies for VH<sub>3</sub> Decomposition on Quartz

Gas	$E_a + \Delta H_{ad} (kcal/mole)$	Reference
AsH <sub>3</sub>	32.6	65
PH <sub>3</sub>	46.4	57
PH <sub>3</sub>	$46 \pm 4$	59
PH <sub>3</sub>	44.2	60
NH <sub>3</sub>	$43 \pm 5$	52
NH <sub>3</sub>	38.2	53
NH <sub>3</sub>	$33.7 \pm 2$	55

methods for their experiments, but, since  $N_2$  and  $H_2$  are the only expected products of the decomposition reaction, it is doubtful that their values are systematically high. Only 4 data points were used to determine the apparent activation energy for  $NH_3$  decomposition in this study and the highest point had a very large uncertainty (26%). Thus, the uncertainty associated with the  $NH_3$  results may be larger than was estimated.

Assuming that the rate constants  $k_2$  and  $k_3$  have Arrhenius type temperature dependencies, it is expected that a plot of  $\ln(k_2/k_3)$  versus time would yield a straight line. Further, the slope of this line should be the difference between the activation energies for the two reactions. This plot is shown in Figure 6-33. The  $AsH_3$  results and the high temperature  $NH_3$  results show reasonable agreement with the suggested model. The  $PH_3$  results and low temperature  $NH_3$  results are anomolous. Based on Figure 6-33, the activation energy differences were 59.6, 8.0 and 22 kcal/mole for  $NH_3$ ,  $PH_3$  and  $AsH_3$ , respectively.

#### Implications of the Measurements on Other Reactions in the Decomposition Chain

The relative peak intensities for the mass spectrometer fragment ion pattern of  $NH_3$ ,  $PH_3$  and  $AsH_3$  are shown in Table 6-7. The  $PH_3$  and  $AsH_3$  patterns found in this study agree reasonably well with those in the reference [179]. The poor agreement for the  $NH_3$  results is due to the presence of the  $H_2O$  background which dominates the signal at  $m/e = 17$  due to the  $OH^+$  fragment ion. Generally, some discrepancies are expected in the relative peak intensities reported by different institutions due to the differences in operating parameters and geometrics of each mass spectrometer.



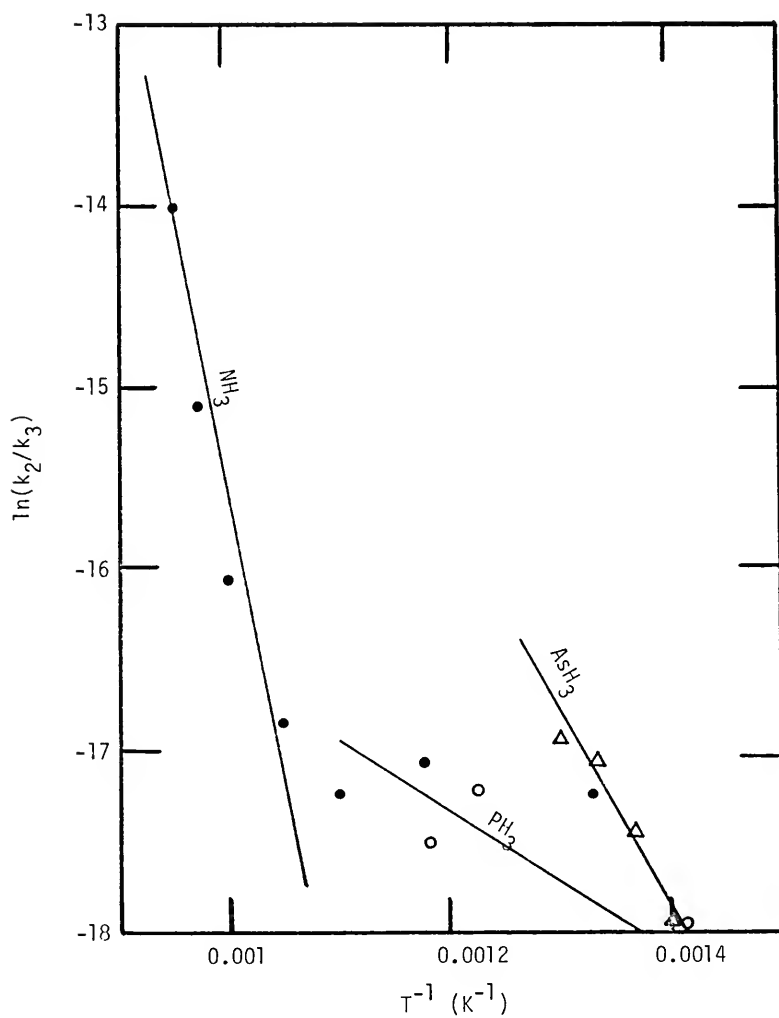


Figure 6-33  
Determination of Activation Energies  
(• NH<sub>3</sub>, ○ PH<sub>3</sub>, △ AsH<sub>3</sub>)

Table 6-7  
Relative Peak Intensities for  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{PH}_3$ ,  $\text{AsH}_3$

Ion	m/e	This Study	Reference [179]
$\text{N}^+$	14	0.	2.2
$\text{NH}^+$	15	18.	7.5
$\text{NH}_2^+$	16	43.	80.
$\text{NH}_3^+$	17	100.	100.
$\text{P}^+$	31	32.	27.
$\text{PH}^+$	32	100.	100.
$\text{PH}_2^+$	33	25.	25.
$\text{PH}_3^+$	34	73.	77.
$\text{As}^+$	75	54.	39.
$\text{AsH}^+$	76	100.	100.
$\text{AsH}_2^+$	77	23.	29.
$\text{AsH}_3^+$	78	62.	92.

The mass spectrometer signals for  $\text{PH}_3^+$ ,  $\text{P}^+$ ,  $\text{P}_2^+$  and  $\text{P}_4^+$  are shown in Figure 6-34 for the decomposition of  $\text{PH}_3$  at 855 K. Since the fragment ion pattern of  $\text{PH}_3$  was known, the signal for  $\text{P}^+$  was corrected for the presence of  $\text{PH}_3$ . Unfortunately, the fragment ion patterns for  $\text{P}_4$  and  $\text{P}_2$  were not known and therefore, it was not possible to correct the  $\text{P}^+$  and  $\text{P}_2^+$  signals for the presence of  $\text{P}_4$  and the  $\text{P}^+$  signals for the presence of  $\text{P}_2$ . If these patterns were known, it would be possible to determine the rates of formation of  $\text{P}$ ,  $\text{P}_2$  and  $\text{P}_4$  from the decomposition of  $\text{PH}_3$ . Only a very small signal corresponding to  $\text{P}_3^+$  was observed.

Figure 6-35 depicts the decomposition of  $\text{AsH}_3$  at 779 K and shows the mass spectrometer signals for  $\text{AsH}_3^+$ ,  $\text{As}^+$ ,  $\text{As}_2^+$  and  $\text{As}_4^+$ . The signals in the As system are smaller than those in the P system due to the decreased electron multiplier gain at large  $m/e$  values. This is clearly demonstrated for  $\text{As}_4^+$  ( $m/e = 300$ ) where the maximum signal observed (2mV) was barely recognizable over the noise at the baseline. As in the P system, the  $\text{As}^+$  signal was corrected for the presence of  $\text{AsH}_3$ , but the influence of  $\text{As}_2$  was not accounted for since its fragment ion pattern was unknown. No signal corresponding to  $\text{As}_3^+$  was observed.

In both the As and P systems, the  $\text{V}^+$ ,  $\text{V}_2^+$  and  $\text{V}_4^+$  signals reach maxima at the same time. This may be due to the  $\text{V}^+$  and  $\text{V}_2^+$  signals being fragments of  $\text{V}_4$  since  $\text{V}_4$  is thermodynamically favored at the temperatures and pressures employed in the reaction tube. If these maxima did not occur in coincidence, one would be compelled to conclude that additional rate influential reactions may exist in the formation of  $\text{V}_2$  and  $\text{V}_4$  from the decomposition of  $\text{VH}_3$ . Since this is not the case, it appears reasonable to assume that the decomposition of

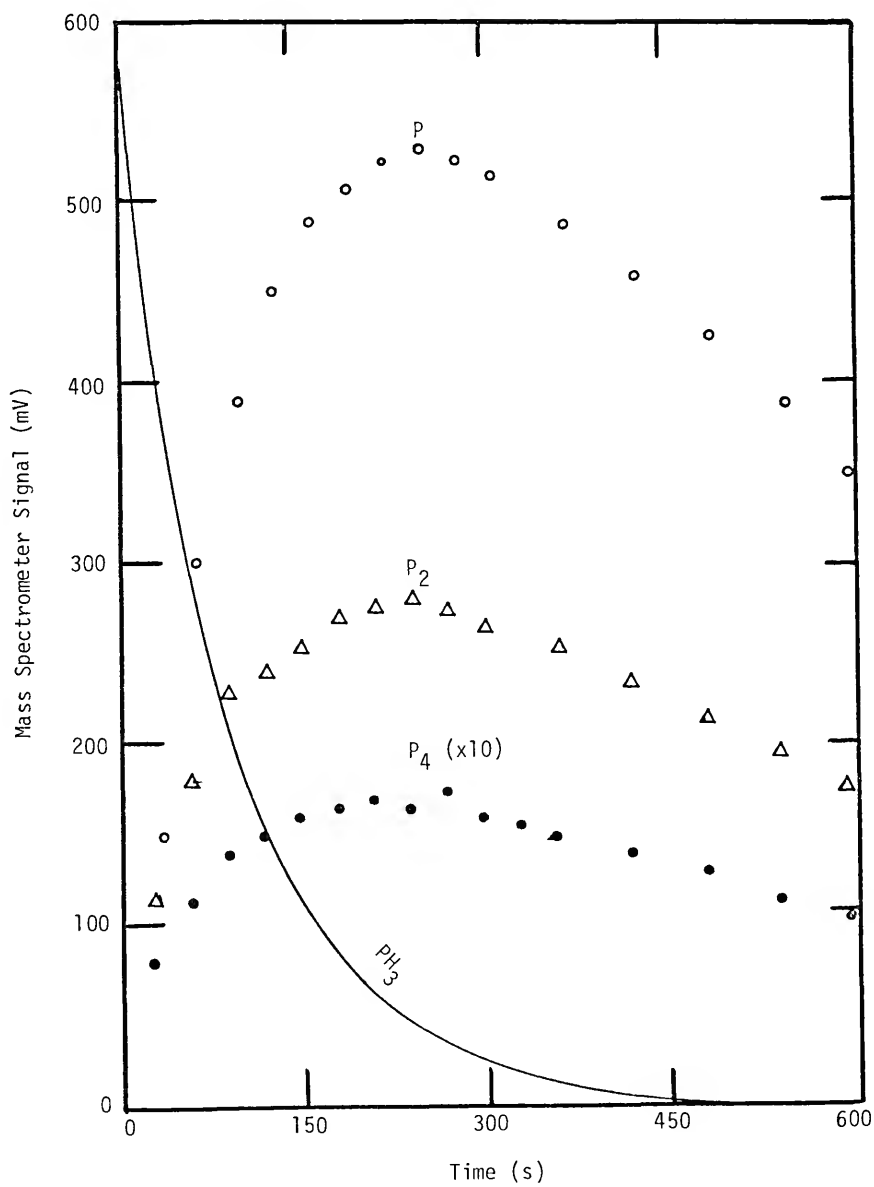


Figure 6-34  
 $PH_3$  Decomposition at 855K

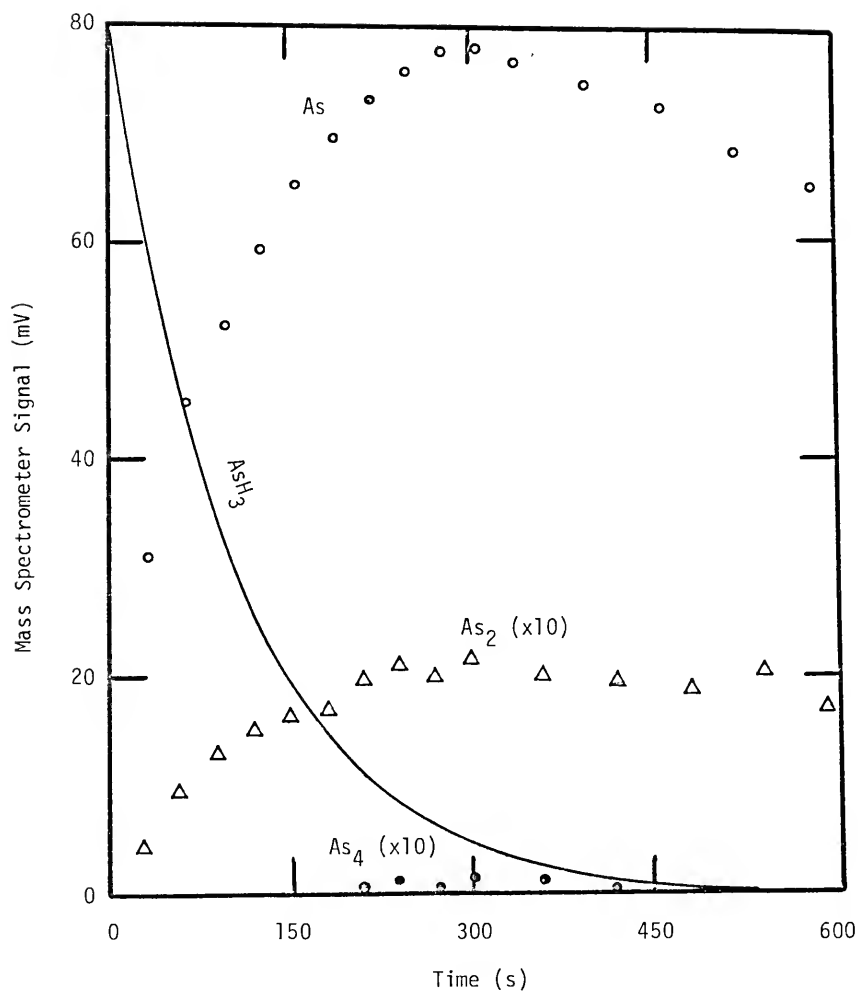


Figure 6-35  
 $\text{AsH}_3$  Decomposition at 779K

$\text{VH}_3(\text{ad})$  into  $\text{VH}(\text{ad})$  is the rate limiting step in the reaction sequence and that  $\text{V}$ ,  $\text{V}_2$  and  $\text{V}_4$  may be assumed to be at equilibrium.

### Comparison Between Equilibrium and Kinetic Models

#### for $\text{VH}_3$ Decomposition

The applicability of an equilibrium model to describe the decomposition of  $\text{VH}_3$  in a hydride system reactor can best be investigated by modelling the group V source zone. Assuming an isothermal reactor, cylinder geometry, plug flow and reaction only at the reactor wall, the steady state axial and radial  $\text{VH}_3$  composition profiles are found by solving [177]

$$-D \frac{d^2 C}{dz^2} + v \frac{dC}{dz} = \frac{D}{r} \frac{d}{dr} r \frac{dC}{dr} \quad 6-35$$

where  $C$  is the concentration of  $\text{VH}_3$ ,  $v$  is the velocity of the plug and  $D$  is the diffusion coefficient for  $\text{VH}_3$  in  $\text{H}_2$ . Assuming that  $C$  may be separated into  $r$  and  $z$  components ( $C = C_r C_z$ ) the partial differential equation 6-35 may be written as two ordinary differential equations

$$\frac{d^2 C_z}{dz^2} - \frac{v}{D} \frac{dC_z}{dz} - \frac{av}{D} C_z = 0 \quad 6-36$$

$$r^2 \frac{d^2 C_r}{dr^2} + r \frac{dC_r}{dr} + \frac{avr^2}{D} C_r = 0 \quad 6-37$$

subject to the boundary conditions:

$$C = C_{\text{in}} \text{ at } z=0, 0 \leq r \leq R \quad 6-38$$

$$C_z \text{ is finite as } z \rightarrow \infty \quad 6-39$$

$$-D \frac{dC_r}{dr} = k_{\text{rxn}} C_r \text{ at } r=R \quad 6-40$$

$$\frac{dC_r}{dr} = 0 \text{ at } r=0 \quad 6-41$$

The axial composition profile, represented by equation 6-36, has the solution

$$C_z = C_1 e^{r+z} + C_2 e^{r-z} \quad 6-42$$

$$\text{where } r_{\pm} = \frac{v[1 \pm (1 + \frac{4aD}{v})^{1/2}]}{2D} \quad 6-43$$

Applying equation 6-39 requires  $C_1 = 0$  therefore,

$$C_z = C_2 e^{r-z} \quad 6-44$$

where the constant  $C_2$  is evaluated in conjunction with the radial solution.

Equation 6-37 is Bessel's equation which has the solution

$$C_r = A_1 J_0(ar) + A_2 Y_0(ar) \quad 6-45$$

where  $J_0$  and  $Y_0$  are the Bessel functions of the first and second kind, respectively. Since  $Y_0$  becomes infinite at  $r=0$ , the boundary condition represented by equation 6-41 requires that  $A_2$  vanish. Thus,

$$C_r = A_1 J_0(ar) \quad 6-46$$

where the eigenvalue,  $a$ , is determined from the solution of equation 6-40

$$\left. \frac{dJ_0(ar)}{dr} \right|_{r=R} = - \frac{ak_{rxn}}{D} J_0(aR) \quad 6-47$$

Equation 6-47 is rewritten as

$$J_1(aR) - \frac{ak_{rxn}}{D} J_0(aR) = 0 \quad 6-48$$

which has an infinite number of roots. Thus, the solution to equation 6-35 is

$$C(r,z) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} A_i J_0(a_i r) e^{-r-z} \quad 6-49$$

where the constant  $C_2$  has been included into  $A_i$ . The constants  $A_i$  are evaluated by applying the principal of orthogonality which yields the result

$$A_i = C_{in} \frac{\int_0^R r J_0(a_i r) dr}{\int_0^R r J_0^2(a_i r) dr} \quad 6-50$$

which was evaluated by numerical integration. Using five terms of the series in equation 6-49 allowed the solution to converge to within at least three significant figures for all of the cases studied.

Figures 6-36 and 6-37 show the residence time required to achieve 99% decomposition of  $\text{AsH}_3$  and  $\text{PH}_3$  for various reactor diameters. This degree of decomposition was chosen because the equilibrium compositions of  $\text{V}_2$  and  $\text{V}_4$  remain essentially unaffected by any further decomposition of  $\text{VH}_3$ . Thus, if a hydride CVD system is designed which yields a  $\text{VH}_3$  decomposition of at least 99%, an analysis of the gas phase based on the assumption of equilibrium will provide accurate results for the  $\text{V}_2$  and  $\text{V}_4$  compositions. As is shown, higher temperatures require shorter tube lengths in order to reach this level of conversion. Also,  $\text{AsH}_3$  decomposes much faster than  $\text{PH}_3$  for a given temperature and tube diameter. The increase in residence time with tube diameter is due to the fact that the volume of gas per unit length of tube increases faster than the surface area as the tube diameter increases (i.e. for a cylinder the surface to volume ratio goes as  $1/\text{radius}$ ). Thus, the reaction rate per volume decreases and therefore longer times are required to reach the same degree of decomposition.

The importance of including axial diffusion in the model is also demonstrated by Figures 6-36 and 6-37. The second derivative with respect to axial position in equation 6-35 was set to zero and the residence times were calculated at 873 K as functions of tube diameter. As shown, the model neglecting axial diffusion grossly underpredicts the residence time ( and therefore the reactor length) necessary to



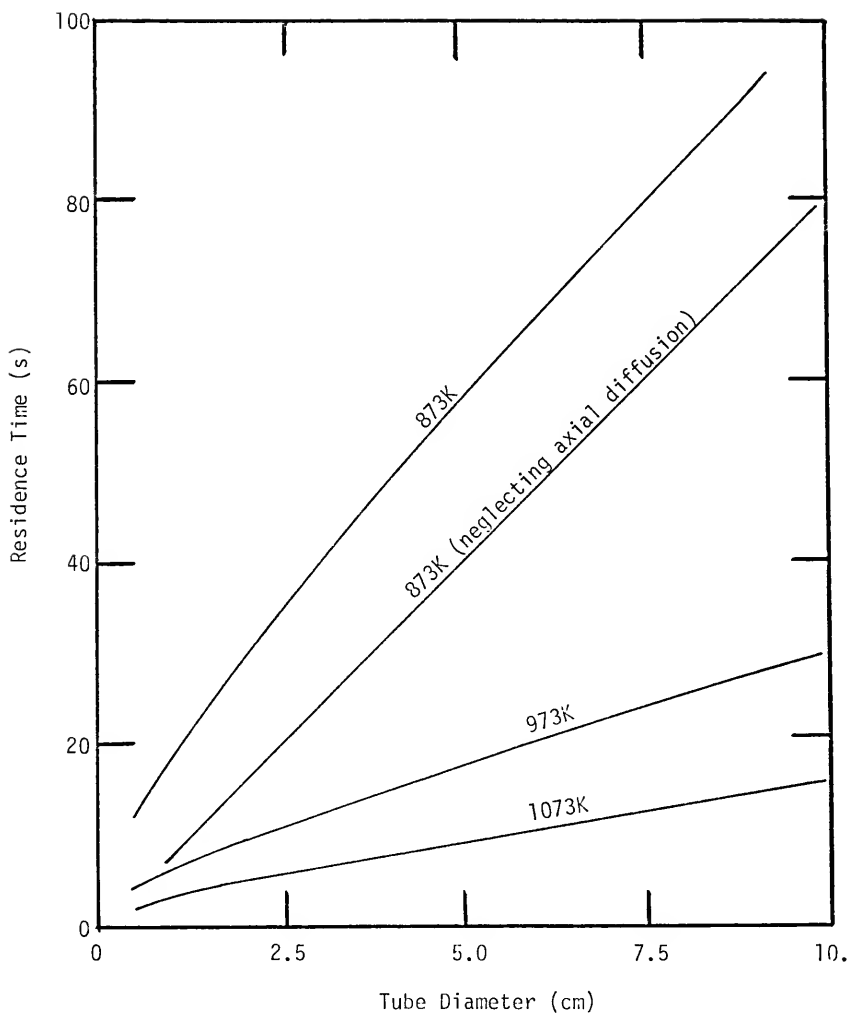


Figure 6-36  
Residence Time Required to Achieve 99%  $\text{AsH}_3$  Decomposition

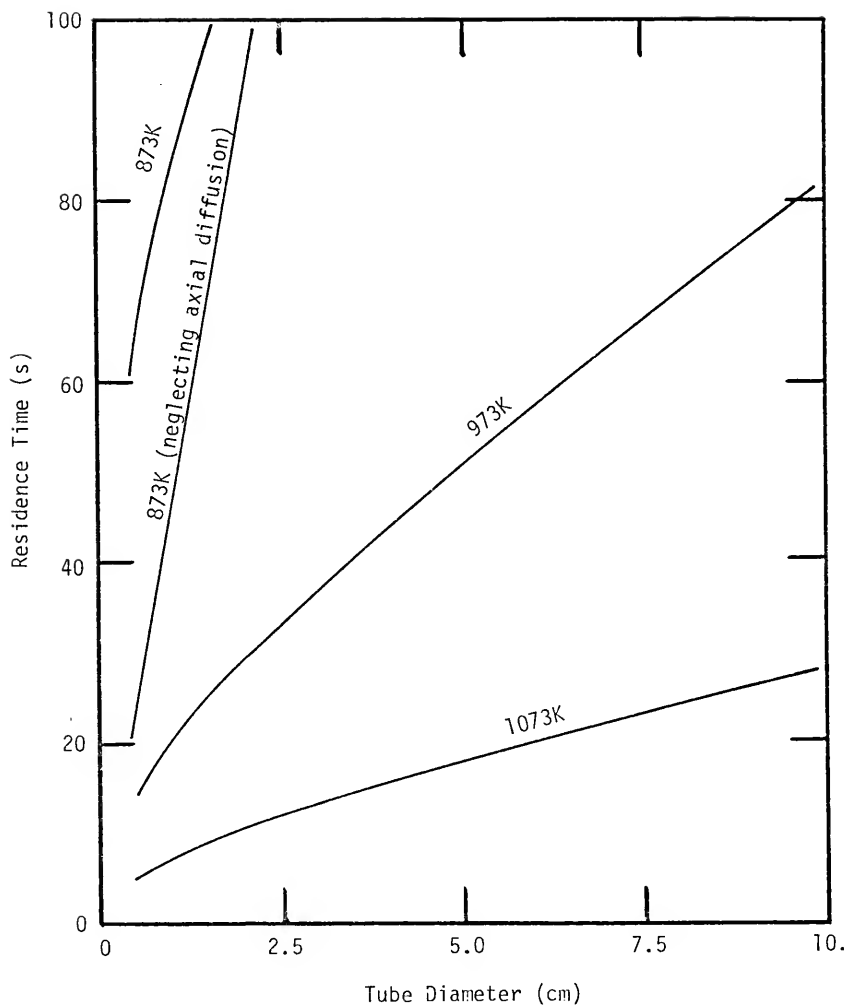


Figure 6-37  
Residence Time Required to Achieve 99%  $\text{PH}_3$  Decomposition

achieve the desired degree of decomposition. These results were calculated at a velocity of 1 cm/s which corresponds to  $0.1 < Pe < 2$  ( $Pe = 2Rv/D$ ). At these Peclet numbers axial diffusion is extremely important. For systems employing higher velocities, and therefore larger Peclet numbers (e.g.  $Pe > 10$ ), the importance of including axial diffusion is diminished [180].

Hsieh [181] has studied the Graetz problem for heat transfer [182] (which includes a parabolic velocity profile) and compared the results to a model using plug flow. He found that the plug flow model gave results which were conservative (i.e. predicted longer reactor lengths to achieve the same average radial temperature) when compared to the solution to the Graetz problem. Based on these results, it is believed that Figures 6-36 and 6-37 are also conservative in nature. Typical hydride system CVD reactors employ a tube for the group V source zone which is approximately 2 cm in diameter and use a gas velocity of 1 cm/s. Based on Figure 6-36 and 6-37, tube lengths of 10 cm and 30 cm are required to reach 99%  $VH_3$  decomposition at 973 K for  $AsH_3$  and  $PH_3$ , respectively. At 873 K, these tube lengths must be increased by approximately a factor of three. Many hydride system reactors are between 50 cm and 100 cm long. Therefore, it is expected that an equilibrium analysis for a system using  $AsH_3$  will yield acceptable results if the source and mixing zone temperatures are above 873 K. Source and mixing zone temperatures greater than 973 K are necessary in order for an equilibrium analysis to apply to a system using  $PH_3$ .

The  $AsH_3$  radial composition profiles, 99% decomposed, are shown for temperatures of 873 K, 973 K and 1073 K in Figure 6-38 in a 10 cm diameter reactor. The large diameter reactor was used in this

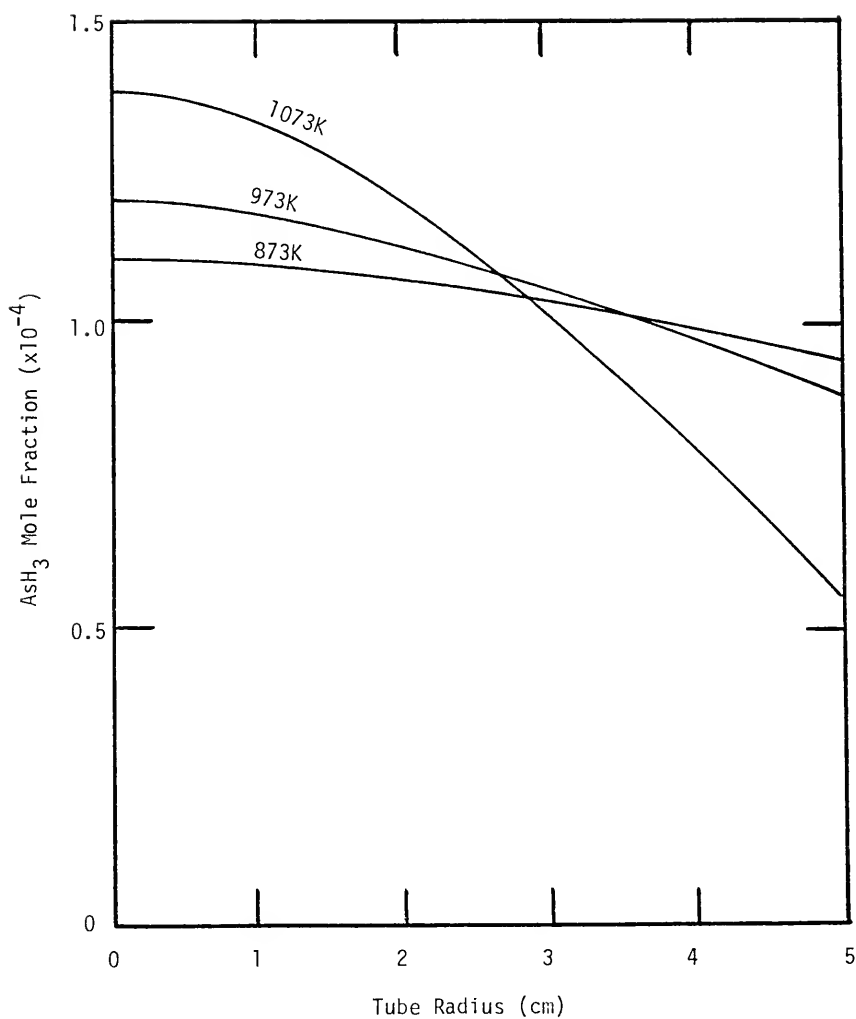


Figure 6-38  
 $\text{AsH}_3$  Radial Composition Profile at 99% Decomposition

calculation in order that some curvature in the radial composition profile might be observed. The more pronounced curvature at high temperatures is due to the reaction rate increasing faster than the diffusion coefficient with increasing temperature. Thus, at high temperatures in large diameter tubes, mass transport limitations are expected to become increasingly important.

## CHAPTER SEVEN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### Conclusions

Parametric analyses of the chemical reaction thermodynamics pertaining to the chemical vapor deposition of GaAs and InP in the chloride and hydride systems have revealed some dissimilarities between these systems. Within the chloride system the condensed phase silicon activity resulting from the use of solid III-V material as the group III source was shown to be smaller than that obtained when a liquid group III source was used. This difference was more pronounced for the GaAs system than it was for the InP system. The silicon activity for the InP system using a liquid source was slightly less than that of the analogous GaAs system, while the GaAs system using the solid source exhibited a much smaller silicon activity than did the InP system using a solid source. Small additions of HCl, H<sub>2</sub>O or VCl<sub>3</sub> to the mixing zones of these chloride systems were very effective in reducing the silicon activity. Replacing the hydrogen carrier gas with an inert gas was found to be an effective method of reducing the silicon activity only if greater than 98% of the hydrogen was replaced. The degree of supersaturation in the deposition zone was much larger for the GaAs system than for the InP system. Also, the use of a liquid group III source material led to a greater degree of supersaturation in the deposition zone than did the use of a solid III-V compound as the group III source.

The hydride system was found to be substantially less super-saturated than the chloride system under typical operating conditions and the condensed phase silicon activity was less by approximately one order of magnitude for the hydride system when compared to the chloride system. Replacement of the hydrogen carrier gas with an inert was not as effective a method of reducing the silicon activity in the hydride system as it was in the chloride system due to the  $H_2$  liberated from the decomposition of  $HCl$  and  $VH_3$ . The condensed phase silicon activity was found to decrease with increasing pressure in the deposition zones while maxima in the silicon activity were found in the source and mixing zones at approximately 4 kPa pressure for systems using liquid source materials. Increasing the temperature was found to strongly increase the silicon activity in the source and mixing zones. The influence of inlet composition on silicon activity was not as strong as that of temperature, pressure, replacement of  $H_2$  by inerts or the addition of species downstream of the source zone. Reduced silicon activities occurred as the inlet composition of chlorine containing species was increased.

In general, it was found that shifting the vapor phase silicon species from those which are hydrogen rich to chlorine rich species markedly reduced the condensed phase silicon activity. This effect was so pronounced that even in systems where the total amount of silicon in the vapor phase as chlorinated species was much greater than that of hydrogen rich species in other systems, the condensed phase silicon activity was still sharply reduced.

Investigations into the decomposition kinetics of  $NH_3$ ,  $PH_3$  and  $AsH_3$  have revealed that the mechanisms of decomposition for these

molecules appear to be identical in at least the first steps of the reaction sequence. The first step consists of Langmuir adsorption onto the surface of the vessel followed by a reversible reaction between the adsorbed  $\text{VH}_3$  molecule and its products  $\text{VH}$  and  $\text{H}_2$ . The third step appears to be an irreversible decomposition of the  $\text{VH}$  molecule. The second step in the  $\text{VH}_3$  decomposition reaction sequence is rate limiting and, over the temperature range  $750 \text{ K} < T < 1048 \text{ K}$ , the reversibility of this reaction must be included in the decomposition of  $\text{NH}_3$ . It was found that for temperatures greater than  $780 \text{ K}$  for  $\text{AsH}_3$  and  $850 \text{ K}$  for  $\text{PH}_3$ , these decompositions could be accurately modeled as irreversible first order reactions. Below these temperatures, the reverse reaction in the second step of the sequence must be included. The apparent activation energies for these decomposition reactions were determined to be 60.2, 36.5 and 29.2 kcal/mole for  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{PH}_3$  and  $\text{AsH}_3$ , respectively. Indirect evidence supports the assumption that the products of these decomposition reactions ( $\text{V}$ ,  $\text{V}_2$  and  $\text{V}_4$ ) may be considered to be at equilibrium.

An isothermal plug flow model for the group V hydride source zone demonstrated that the application of an analysis based on the assumption of equilibrium is justified for temperatures greater than  $873 \text{ K}$  in the  $\text{AsH}_3$  system and  $973 \text{ K}$  in the  $\text{PH}_3$  system. This conclusion is based on a gas velocity of  $1 \text{ cm/s}$  in a  $2 \text{ cm}$  diameter tube. The plug flow model also showed that axial diffusion must be included in the model if accurate results are to be obtained when  $\text{Pe} < 10$ .

#### Recommendations

The results of this study provide a basis for further investigations into the fundamental chemistry associated with the hydride



and chloride processes. It is recommended that the decomposition rate of the various  $\text{VH}_3$  species be determined at other surface area to volume ratios than that which was employed in these experiments. This information is necessary to quantify the heterogeneous nature of these reactions. Additionally, the fragment ion patterns for the  $\text{V}_2$  and  $\text{V}_4$  species need to be determined in order to further characterize the decomposition of  $\text{VH}_3$ .

The current disposition of the mass spectrometer and reaction tube is such that many investigations pertinent to the chemistry of III-V CVD processes may be carried out without significant modifications. Fragment ion patterns for the  $\text{V}_2$  and  $\text{V}_4$  species can be obtained by placing solid group V material into the reactor, thus making an effusion cell. The decomposition kinetics of  $\text{AsCl}_3$ ,  $\text{PCl}_3$  and the group III metalorganics can be studied using the same methods which were employed for  $\text{VH}_3$ . A bubbler system would need to be installed in order to provide a source for the  $\text{VCl}_3$  species.

It is recommended that the mass spectrometer system be upgraded to a true molecular beam facility, as is described in Appendix B. The resulting system would be expected to perform with sufficient sensitivity ( $\sim 1$  ppm) to allow the detection of minor species in the reaction tube. The rate of formation of vapor phase silicon species, arising from the interaction between  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{HCl}$  and the reactor wall, could then be determined and compared to the calculated equilibrium results. Conversion of the current constant volume reactor to an open system would allow the study of actual hydride and chloride CVD systems. Once again, the mass spectrometer may be employed to determine the vapor phase composition and these results could then be compared to the thermodynamic results.

Finally, the characterization of the chemistry surrounding the epitaxial growth of III-V materials requires that the principal species taking part in the deposition reaction be identified. Thus, measurement of the vapor composition in the immediate vicinity of the substrate (e.g. through a hole etched in the substrate) is expected to produce local information directly related to the deposition reaction. Changes in operating parameters which affect the deposition process (e.g. growth rate, epi-layer quality) can then be related directly to the local chemistry at the substrate surface. This information is instrumental for the understanding of III-V CVD.

APPENDIX A  
A STOICHIOMETRIC ALGORITHM FOR THE CALCULATION OF CHEMICAL EQUILIBRIA

The stoichiometric algorithms employed by Cruise [183] and Smith and Missen [184] may be extended to include a solution phase in addition to vapor and pure condensed phases. A stoichiometric algorithm is one in which a set of formation reaction equations are used to provide a driving force in the numerical solution of the equilibrium problem. The formation reaction for any species  $i$  in a system containing  $E$  elements is written as

$$S_i = \sum_{k=1}^E \nu_{ik} S_k^b \quad \text{A-1}$$

The reactants in equation A-1 are called the basis species (thus, the superscript "b") and form a linearly independent set of species from within the system which represent all of the elements present in the system. The stoichiometric coefficient  $\nu_{ik}$  describes the number of molecules of basis species  $k$  which are required in the formation of species  $i$ .

The technique used in this stoichiometric algorithm to calculate the equilibrium composition of the system is as follows. First, the equilibrium constants for the formation reactions in equation A-1 are calculated from the Gibbs energy change of the reactions. Next, the current compositions for each of the species present are used to calculate another "equilibrium constant". The values of the two constants are then used in finite difference equations which approximate derivatives of the equilibrium constants with respect to the reaction extents. These equations predict changes in the reaction extents which will yield an improved approximation to the equilibrium composition of the system.

The discrete formulation of this algorithm, applied to a system consisting of a vapor phase containing  $V$  species, a solution phase containing  $S$  species and  $C$  pure condensed phases, starts with the definition of the elemental abundance matrix  $\underline{A}$ , a vector representing the molar amount of each of the species  $\underline{N}$ , and a vector containing the total moles of each element present in the system  $\underline{B}$ .

$$\underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \cdots a_{1E} \\ a_{VSC,1} \cdots a_{VSC,E} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\underline{N}^T = (n_1 \dots n_{VSC})$$

$$\underline{B}^T = (b, \dots b_E)$$

where:  $a_{ij}$  = number of atoms of element  $j$  in species  $i$

$n_i$  = moles of specie  $i$  in the system

$b_j$  = moles of element  $j$  in the system

$vsc = V+S+C$

$E$  = number of elements in the system

These definitions result in the following relationship which describes the system mass balance.

$$\underline{A}^T \underline{N} = \underline{B} \quad \text{A-2}$$

In order to construct a set of formation reactions, as in equation A-1, a set of basis species which are linearly independent from each other yet represent all of the elements present in the system, must be found. A further restriction is placed upon the set of basis species when the convergence rate of the algorithm is considered. Obviously, the molar amounts of each of the species must be nonnegative for a physically realistic situation to exist. If a basis species which has a very small initial composition is chosen, and the formation of another species requires the consumption of this basis species, then the

rate of convergence will be slow in order to prevent the molar amount of the basis species from becoming negative. Thus, a rapidly converging algorithm will employ an optimum set of basis species which, in addition to the two previously mentioned requirements, are present in the greatest molar amounts available. Also, since the molar amounts of each species change after each iteration, this optimum set of basis species may need to be chosen at each iteration.

The optimum set of basis species is chosen by first sorting vector  $\underline{N}$  into descending order ( $n_1 > n_2 > \dots > n$ ) and ordering the rows of  $\underline{A}$  correspondingly. The first row of  $\underline{A}$  is then transferred into the first row of a new matrix  $\underline{D}$ . The second row of  $\underline{A}$  is then transferred into the next row of  $\underline{D}$  and tested for linear independence. If it is linearly independent, the row is kept and the process continues. If not, the next row in  $\underline{A}$  is tried. This process is continued until  $\underline{D}$  is filled. For a system comprised of  $E$  elements, there will be  $E$  basis species, therefore matrix  $\underline{D}$  will always be square.

An efficient method of testing for linear independence between the rows of the  $\underline{D}$  matrix is to build the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalized matrix  $\underline{D}'$  using the formulation [185]

$$\begin{aligned} d'_{1j} &= d_{1j} \\ d'_{ij} &= d_{ij} - \sum_{l=1}^{i-1} d'_{lj} \left| \frac{\sum_{k=1}^E d_{ik} d'_{lk}}{\sum_{k=1}^E (d'_{lk})^2} \right| \end{aligned} \quad \text{A-3}$$

where:  $i = 2, 3, \dots, md$

$j = 1, 2, \dots, E$

$md$  = current row in matrix  $\underline{D}$

A linear dependence between row  $md$  of  $\underline{D}$  and the remaining rows in  $\underline{D}$  exists if row  $md$  of  $\underline{D}'$  contains all zeros.

The matrix containing the stoichiometric coefficients for all of the formation reactions is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_{11} & \cdots & v_{iE} \\ \vdots & & \\ v_{vsc,1} & \cdots & v_{vsc,E} \end{pmatrix} = \underline{A} \underline{D}^{-1} \quad A-4$$

Equilibrium constants may now be calculated for each of the formation reaction equations using the Gibbs energy change for each reaction.

$$\ln K_{eqi} = \frac{1}{RT} \left( \sum_{k=1}^E v_{ik} \mu_k - \mu_i^{\circ} \right) \quad A-5$$

where:  $K_{eqi}$  = equilibrium constant for reaction  $i$

$\mu_i^{\circ}$  = standard chemical potential of species  $i$

$\mu_k^{\circ}$  = standard chemical potential of basis species  $k$

An "equilibrium constant" for each formation reaction may also be calculated from the current estimate to the equilibrium composition,

$$\ln Q_i = \ln a_i - \sum_{k=1}^E v_{ik} \ln a_k \quad A-6$$

where:  $a_i = \gamma_i n_i P_{pi}/n_T$  (activity of species  $i$ )

$\gamma_i$  = activity coefficient

$n_T$  = total moles of species in the same phase as specie  $i$

$P_{pi} = \begin{cases} P/P_0 & \text{vapor species} \\ 1 & \text{nonvapor species} \end{cases}$

$P_0$  = reference state pressure

Defining the extent of the reaction,  $\xi_i$ , as

$$\xi_i = (n_j^i - n_j)/v_{ij}$$

where:  $n_j^i$  = composition of species  $j$  at reaction extent  $\xi_i$

the "equilibrium constant" as calculated from the current composition may be written as

$$\ln Q_i = \ln [\beta_i (n_i + \xi_i)] - \sum_{k=1}^E \gamma_{ik} \ln [\beta_i (n_k + \nu_{ik} \xi_i)] \quad A-7$$

where:  $\beta_i = \gamma_i P_{pi}/n_T$

As an approximation, assume that  $\beta_i$  and  $\beta_k$  are constant for small changes in  $\xi_i$ . Introducing a function  $\delta_i$  to account for nonvapor phases, a finite difference approximation which relates changes in the extent of reaction to the difference between actual equilibrium constant and the "equilibrium constant" calculated from the current composition is obtained by differentiation of equation A-7

$$\frac{\ln K_{eqi} - \ln Q_i}{\Delta \xi_i} \approx \frac{d \ln Q_i}{d \xi_i} \approx \frac{\delta_i}{n_i} - \sum_{k=1}^E \frac{\delta_k \nu_{ik}^2}{n_k} \quad A-8$$

where:  $\delta_i, \delta_k = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{vapor phase} \\ 0 & \text{nonvapor phase} \end{cases}$

Thus the difference between the equilibrium constant for formation reaction  $i$  as calculated from the Gibbs energy ( $K_{eqi}$ ) and as calculated from the current approximation to the equilibrium composition ( $Q_i$ ) results in a prediction of  $\Delta \xi_i$  which will yield a better approximation to the system equilibrium composition.

In order to prevent the occurrence of negative molar amounts, the effect of  $\Delta \xi_i$  on the new composition must be tested. Thus, for the nonbasis species

$$n'_i = n_i + \Delta \xi_i \quad A-9$$

and for the basis species

$$n'_k = n_k - \sum_{i=1}^{VSC} \nu_{ik} \Delta \xi_i \quad A-10$$

where:  $\Delta \xi'_i = \kappa \Delta \xi_i$

In order to assure that nonbasis species remain positive,  $\Delta \xi_i$  is set equal to  $-n_i$  if  $\Delta \xi_i < 0$  and  $|\Delta \xi_i| > n_i$ . Nonnegativity of the basis species is assured by applying the relation

$$\kappa = -n_k / \sum_{i=1}^{VSC} (-\nu_{ik} \Delta \xi_i) \quad A-11$$

to each of the basis species in the system and choosing the smallest positive value of  $\kappa$  which results while  $\kappa$  is constrained to be no greater than unity.

In order to assure convergence of the numerical scheme, it is necessary to apply a convergence forcer. The Gibbs free energy of the system is given by

$$G = \sum_{i=1}^{VSC} n_i [\mu_i^o + RT \ln a_i] \quad A-12$$

The procedure used for determining the value of the convergence forcer,  $\lambda$ , is as follows [183]:

1) Evaluate the derivative:

$$\left( \frac{dG}{d\lambda} \right)_{\lambda=1} = \sum_{i=1}^{VSC} \Delta n_i [\mu_i^o + \ln a_i'] \quad A-13$$

where:  $a_i' = \beta_i n_i'$

$$\Delta n_i = n_i' - n_i$$

If  $\left( \frac{dG}{d\lambda} \right)_{\lambda=1} \leq 0$  then set  $\lambda=1$ .

2) If  $\left( \frac{dG}{d\lambda} \right)_{\lambda=1} > 0$  then evaluate:

$$\left( \frac{dG}{d\lambda} \right)_{\lambda=0} = \sum_{i=1}^{VSC} \Delta n_i [\mu_i^o + \ln a_i] \quad A-14$$

The optimum value of  $\lambda$  is then approximated by:

$$\lambda = \frac{\left( \frac{dG}{d\lambda} \right)_{\lambda=0}}{\left( \frac{dG}{d\lambda} \right)_{\lambda=0} - \left( \frac{dG}{d\lambda} \right)_{\lambda=1}} \quad A-15$$

Equation A-15 represents a single step of a Regula-Falsi root finding algorithm which yields a sufficiently accurate estimate to the optimum value of the convergence forcer. Infrequently, equation A-15 will predict a negative value for  $\lambda$  and in this case  $\lambda$  is set to 0.05 in order to allow the iterative solution to continue.



The convergence forcer is applied to the updating of the nonbasis species molar amounts as

$$n_i' = n_i + \lambda \Delta \xi_i' \quad \text{A-16}$$

The application of the convergence forcer greatly enhances the rate of convergence of the algorithm.

## APPENDIX B GAS SAMPLING SYSTEM AND MASS SPECTROMETER

A schematic representation of the mass spectrometer and gas sampling system coupled to the reaction tube used for the decomposition experiments is shown in Figure B-1. The overall system consisted of a three stage differentially pumped vacuum system which allowed a quadrupole mass spectrometer (which must be operated at pressure  $<10^{-5}$  torr) to be used for the measurement of the gas phase composition in the reaction tube (normally operated at 700-1000 torr). The objective of the design was to provide a facility which would draw continuous gas samples from the reaction tube in the form of a molecular beam. The formation of a molecular beam precludes the opportunity for intermolecular collisions or wall interactions while the molecules travel from the sampling orifice to the mass spectrometer ionizer. This condition causes the composition of the beam to be "frozen in" at the composition present just after the sampling orifice and, therefore, can be related to the composition within the reactor. Due to conductance limitations in the tube leading to the skimmer orifice, the pressure was too high in this tube to achieve the long mean free paths required for the formation of a molecular beam. This Appendix, therefore, discusses the design philosophy and operating parameters of the system and suggests design modifications which will result in a functional modulated molecular beam facility. It should be noted that even though a molecular beam was not present for the decomposition experiments in this work, the large signal intensities for  $\text{AsH}_3$  and  $\text{PH}_3$ , combined with the extremely small background signals at these mass to charge ratios, allowed very accurate determinations of the vapor phase  $\text{AsH}_3$  and  $\text{PH}_3$  compositions to

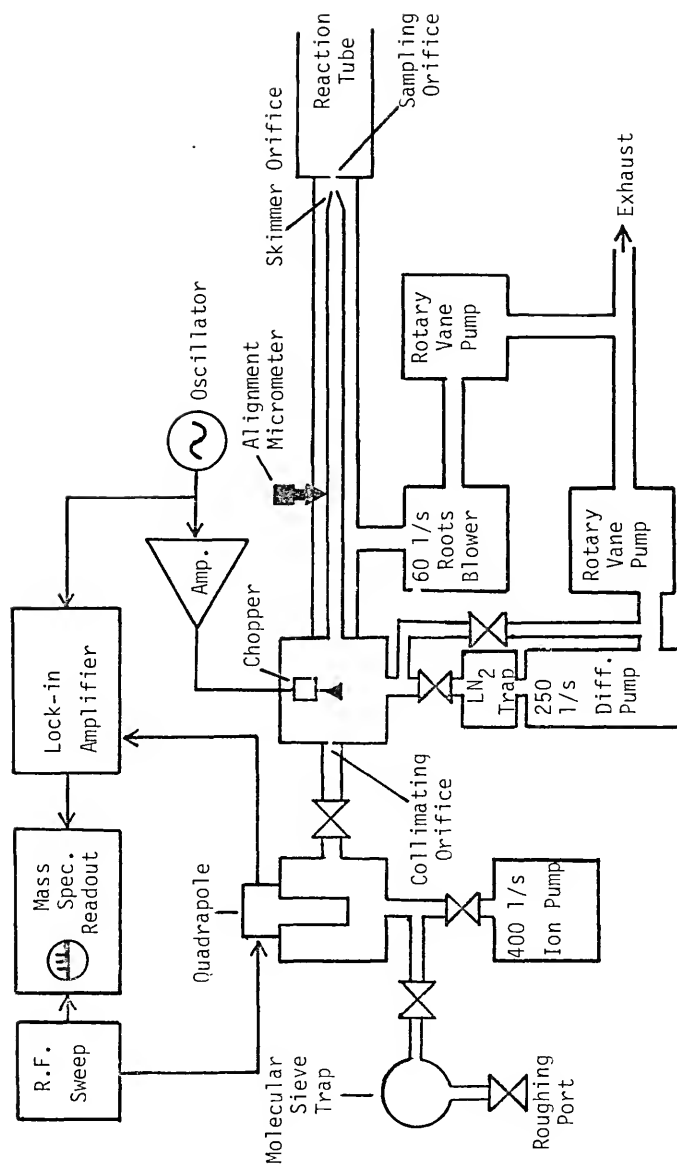


Figure B-1  
Mass Spectrometer and Gas Sampling System

be made. This was not the case for the  $\text{NH}_3$  decomposition experiments, since a large background due to the fragment ions of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{N}_2$ , which were desorbing off the vacuum system walls, were present. A modulated molecular beam facility would be expected to greatly improve the results of the  $\text{NH}_3$  experiments.

The application of a modulated molecular beam mass spectrometer for the measurement of gas phase compositions in reactors operating at high pressure ( $>1$  torr) has received considerable interest and two of the most complete publications regarding these systems have been presented by Dun et al. [186] and Foxon et al. [187]. Basically, the technique employs a very small sampling orifice ( $\sim 0.1$  mm diameter) across which gases are expanded from the high pressure reactor into the first stage of a vacuum system operating at a pressure of approximately  $10^{-3}$  torr. The pressure ratio across this orifice is very high which results in a supersonic jet of gas in the first vacuum system stage with the orifice being at critical flow. A second orifice, known as the skimmer orifice, is then aligned with this gas jet not more than 0.5 mm downstream of the sampling orifice. The skimmer orifice, which is frequently conically shaped and has a diameter approximately equal to that of the sampling orifice, allows a fraction of the gas jet to pass into the second stage. This skimming effect causes the angular velocity distribution of the molecules to be highly peaked in the direction of the mass spectrometer, and therefore, the probability that these molecules will collide with the vacuum system walls and participate in heterogeneous reactions is small. Furthermore, the pressure in the second vacuum stage is usually on the order of  $10^{-7}$  torr. The long molecular mean free paths (500 M for  $\text{N}_2$ ) at this pressure preclude the chance for homogeneous gas phase reactions to occur.

During passage through the second vacuum stage, the molecular beam is modulated by a motor driven chopper blade. The chopped beam then passes through a collimating orifice (nominally 2 mm in diameter) and finally into the ultrahigh vacuum system (operating at a pressure on the order of  $10^{-8}$  torr) where it encounters the ionizer of the quadrupole mass spectrometer.

The signal from the mass spectrometer is sent to a lock-in amplifier which is locked to the frequency of the chopper. The output of the lock-in amplifier therefore represents a frequency and phase correlated signal which, in principal, contains information only about species present in the molecular beam. In practice, however, molecular species desorbing from the vacuum system walls which arrive in coincidence with the modulated molecular beam are also detected. The objective of using a phase and frequency lock detection technique is to markedly increase the signal to noise ratio (or signal to background ratio) over that which is possible by an unmodulated measurement. This greatly enhances the ability of the instrument to make quantitative measurements down to very low levels of concentration (1 ppm or below).

The mass spectrometer and gas sampling system shown in Figure B-1 was mated to the 60 mm quartz reactor by fusing a 38 mm quartz tube to the end of the reaction tube. The 38 mm tube was then connected to the vacuum system using a compression type viton o-ring fitting.

The skimmer orifice was fabricated from 10 mm quartz tubing. One end was drawn to a point and then scribed and broken. The desired diameter of the skimmer orifice was obtained by sanding the drawn end of the skimmer tube back until a channel was clearly visible and a thin stream of alcohol was able to pass through it. A micrometer and lens

was used to estimate the orifice diameter at 0.1 mm, but no method of accurately determining the diameter was available. The skimmer orifice was mated to the vacuum system using a compression type viton o-ring fitting. Adjustment of the distance between the skimmer orifice and the sampling orifice was accomplished by varying the amount of skimmer tube which was inserted into the o-ring fitting. Alignment of the skimmer and sampling orifices was made possible by two micrometers mounted through the walls of the first vacuum stage resting at right angles to each other on the skimmer tube mount. The reaction tube was filled with helium and the position of the skimmer orifice was rastered until a maximum in the mass spectrometer signal for  $\text{He}^+$  ( $m/e = 4$ ) was observed.

A chopper motor cooled by a water jacket was mounted inside the second vacuum stage. The motor (Globe model FC-75A1003-2) was designed to operate from 120 VAC at 400 HZ. An audio oscillator driving a power amplifier was used to vary the speed of the motor. The chopper blade was fabricated from 29 mm diameter brass by drilling a 7 mm hole in the base for the motor shaft and cutting a slot 19 mm wide through the brass. This formed a chopper blade with a 50% duty cycle. Set-screws were used to hold the chopper blade onto the motor shaft.

The UHV system was isolated from the first two vacuum system stages by a 2 mm collimating orifice and a gate valve. The background pressure in the UHV system when isolated from the second vacuum stage was  $7 \times 10^{-10}$  torr.

The quadrapole mass spectrometer head was an EAI QUAD 250B using a cross beam electron ionizer and dynode style electron multiplier. This mass spectrometer has a sensitivity of 100 A/ton for  $\text{N}_2$  and a resolution

of  $M/\Delta M > 2M$  up to  $m/e = 500$ . The electronics used to drive the mass spectrometer head were those of a modified Finnigan 3000.

The operating parameters for the mass spectrometer are shown in Table B-1. These parameters are in accord with those suggested in the Finnigan operator's manual except that the ion energy was increased to 7.1 V. This value of ion energy was chosen based on a maximum in peak height which was observed for all  $m/e$  values. The peak height was also found to be very sensitive to the emission current and electron multiplier voltage.

The first vacuum stage in the system was pumped by a 60 l/s roots blower backed by a 12 l/s rotary vane pump. The pressure in this stage was monitored using a thermal conductivity guage.

The second vacuum stage was pumped by a 280 l/s diffusion pump backed by a 6 l/s rotary vane pump. A liquid nitrogen cryogenic trap was placed between the diffusion pump and the vacuum system in order to prevent the diffusion pump oil from backstreaming into the vacuum system. Pressure in the second vacuum stage was monitored using a tubulated ion guage connected to a Granville Phillips series 260 controller. A thermal conductivity guage was used to monitor the foreline pressure of the diffusion pump.

The UHV system was pumped by a 400 l/s triode ion pump. A triode style pump was chosen due to its increased ability to pump inert gases when compared to diode pumps. Pressure in the UHV system was monitored using a nude ion guage connected to a Granville Phillips series 271 controller. A thermal conductivity guage was located in the roughing line for monitoring the pressure during rough pumping.

Table B-1

Mass Spectrometer Operating Parameters

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Ion Energy:	7.1 eV
Electron Energy:	70.0 eV
Lens Voltage:	10.3 V
Extractor Voltage:	4.3 V
Collector Voltage:	26.0 V
Electron Multiplier High Voltage:	-2.06 kV
Emission Current:	1.05 mA
Preamplifier Sensitivity:	$10^{-7}$ A/V
Filter:	300 AMU/s

---



Pressure tapers in each of the vacuum stages are shown in Figure B-2 for a reaction tube pressurized to 760 torr with  $N_2$  at 300 K. These pressure tapers were determined by noting the pressures indicated by the ion gauges and first stage thermal conductivity gauge and then back calculating the tapers using standard conductivity calculations [188].

The first stage is seen to operate at a pressure of 0.05 torr in the region near the sample orifice and 0.03 torr at the flange leading to the roots blower. The second stage pressure at the outlet of the skimmer orifice is  $1.4 \times 10^{-3}$  torr falling to  $2 \times 10^{-6}$  torr at the end of the skimmer tube. The high pressure region following the skimmer orifice is due to the large pressure just upstream of this orifice and the poor conductance offered by the 10 mm skimmer tube. It is this initial high pressure region which makes the formation of a molecular beam impossible in the present system. From the kinetic theory of gases, an expression for the mean free path of nitrogen at 300 K is [188]

$$\lambda = 5 \times 10^{-5} / P \quad \text{B-1}$$

where:  $\lambda$  = mean free path (M)

P = pressure (torr)

Thus, at 0.001 torr the mean free path is on the order of 5 cm which suggests that many intermolecular collisions will occur in the upstream section of the skimmer tube. These collisions will cause the molecules to be scattered and the molecular beam will be lost.

Table B-2 summarizes the pumping speeds and conductances for each stage in the vacuum system. A severe conductance limitation is caused by the use of a 1 M length of 50 mm tubing to connect the roots blower

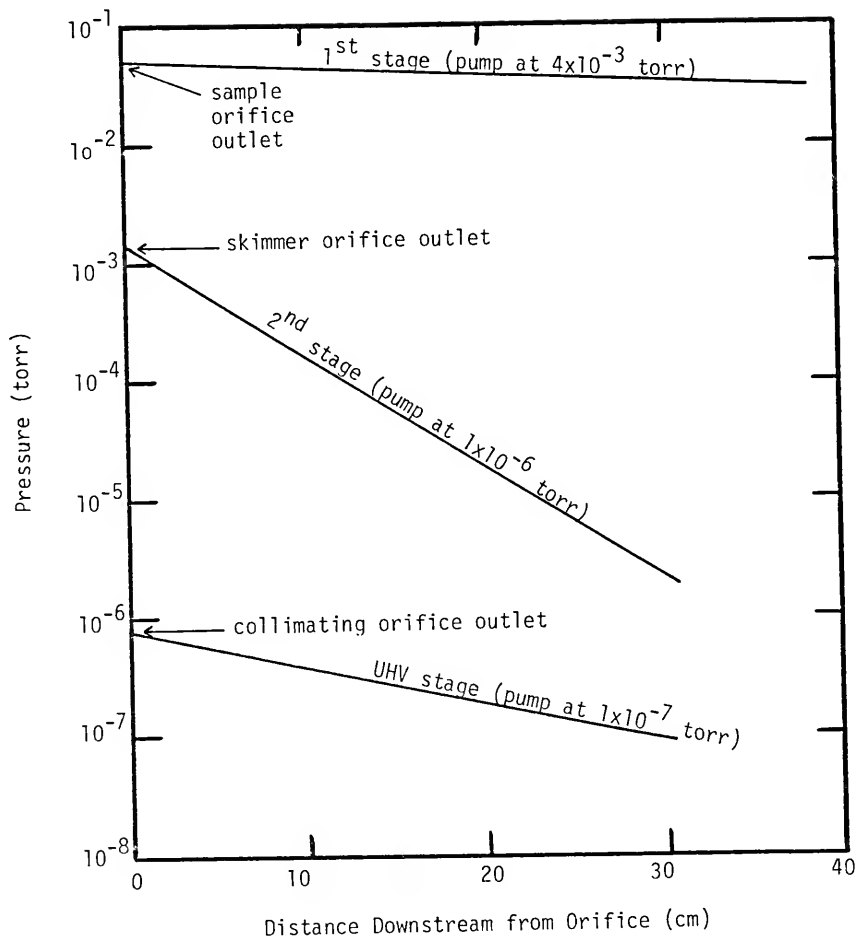


Figure B-2  
Current Vacuum Stage Pressure Tapers

Table B-2

Vacuum System Pumping Speed and Conductance Summary

<u>Pumping Speeds</u>	<u>1st Stage</u>	<u>2nd Stage</u>	<u>UHV Stage</u>
At pump flange	60.	280.	400.
At vacuum stage flange	7.7	130.	310.
At orifice outlet	4.7	0.2	14.
<u>Conductances</u>			
From pump flange to vacuum system flange	8.9	240.	1400.
From vacuum system flange to orifice	12.	0.2	15.
Orifice	~0.0003	~0.005	~0.4

to the first stage of the vacuum system. Shortening this piece of tubing and increasing its diameter would greatly increase the pumping capacity of the first stage and consequently lower the pressure upstream of the skimmer orifice.

A drastic conductance limitation is also present in the second vacuum stage due to the small diameter of the skimmer tube. Increasing the diameter of the skimmer tube would greatly reduce the pressure near the skimmer orifice. This in turn would increase the molecular mean free path and allow the formation of a molecular beam.

The following improvements are suggested for upgrading the first two vacuum stages in order to attain the proper operating conditions for a molecular beam:

- 1) Raise the mount for the roots blower such that a line less than 0.5 M long can be used to connect it to the first vacuum stage.
- 2) Increase the diameter of the line between the roots blower and the first vacuum stage from 50 mm to 100 mm.
- 3) Increase the diameter of the entire first vacuum stage to 100 mm.
- 4) Increase the diameter of the skimmer tube from 10 mm to 38 mm.

A summary of the predicted pumping speeds and conductances in the vacuum system incorporating the previously mentioned improvements is presented in Table B-3. Figure B-3 shows the predicted pressure tapers for the upgraded system under the same conditions as Figure B-2. Much lower pressures and a smaller pressure taper are predicted to exist in the skimmer tube due to the lower pressure at the inlet to the skimmer

Table B-3  
Vacuum System Pumping Speed and Conductance  
Summary for the Improved Design

<u>Pumping Speeds</u>	<u>1st Stage</u>	<u>2nd Stage</u>	<u>UHV Stage</u>
At pump flange	60.	280.	400.
At vacuum system flange	33.	130.	310.
At orifice outlet	24.	17.	14.
<u>Conductances</u>			
From pump flange to vacuum system flange	74.	240.	1400.
From vacuum system flange to orifice	92.	20.	15.
Orifice	~0.0003	~0.005	~0.4

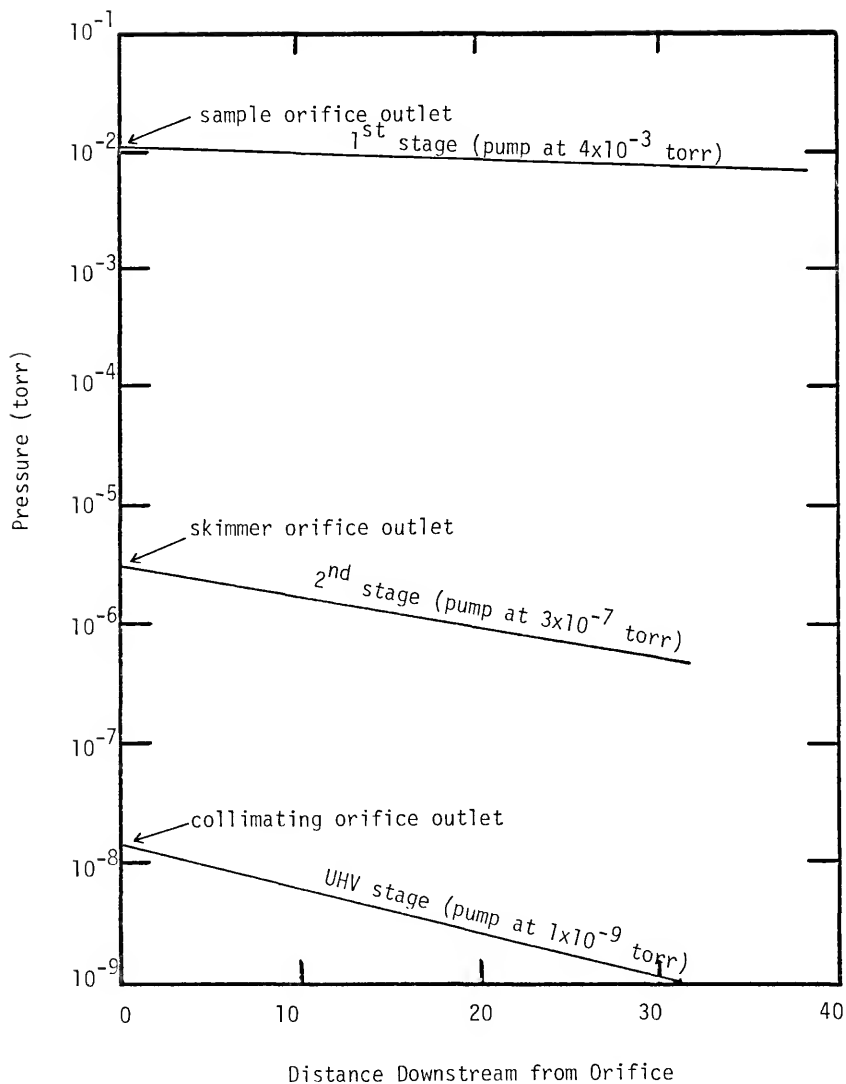


Figure B-3  
Predicted Vacuum Stage Pressure Tapers After Conductance Upgrade

orifice and the increased conductivity in the skimmer tube. The mean free path of a 300 K  $N_2$  molecule exiting the skimmer orifice is expected to be on the order of 10 M. Since the length of the skimmer orifice is approximately 0.3 M, it is expected that these conditions will be very favorable for the formation of a molecular beam.

Foxon et al. [187] have developed a sophisticated modulated molecular beam mass spectrometer system and have used it to study the effusion products of GaAs, GaP and InP. They found that a cryogenic baffle located directly behind the cross beam ionizer of the mass spectrometer greatly reduced the background signals which were present due to species desorbing from this vacuum system wall. The observation of chemical species produced as a result of wall interactions upstream of the mass spectrometer was reduced by varying the chopper motor frequency and applying Fourier transforms to the data analysis. A photodiode was coupled to their chopper blade in order to provide a reference signal for the lock-in amplifier since the chopper motor was unable to remain synchronized with the rapidly changing oscillator frequency.

Practically, the use of Fourier transforms during data analysis suggests that computer controlled data acquisition and mass spectrometer control should be instituted. Also, pulse counting instead of analog signal measurements should be employed. These improvements would result in the data being immediately available to the computer for the application of signal averaging and data reduction techniques.

Finally, it is recommended that a quadrapole mass spectrometer head containing a Faraday cup and channel type electron multiplier be used. Electron multipliers which employ a channel structure yield higher electron gains and the outputs are more amenable for pulse

counting since all of the output pulses are nearly of the same amplitude [189]. The presence of a Faraday cup allows the electron multiplier gain to be determined on a day to day basis. This is a very important piece of information if a library of fragment ion patterns is to be collected for quantitative investigations.



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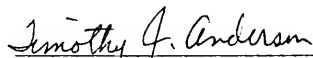
#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Douglas J. Meyer was born March 3, 1953 in Elgin, Illinois. Doug graduated from Dundee Community High School in 1971, received an Associate of Arts degree from Elgin Community College in 1973 and a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana in 1975. After working for Goodyear Atomic Corporation for one year, he returned to college and received a Master of Science degree in nuclear engineering from Iowa State University in 1978.

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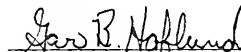
Doug is currently located in the San Francisco Bay Area where he is employed by Gemini Research, a major vendor of silicon CVD equipment.

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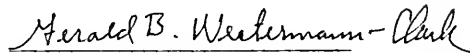
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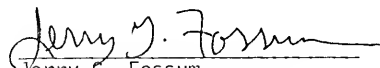
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